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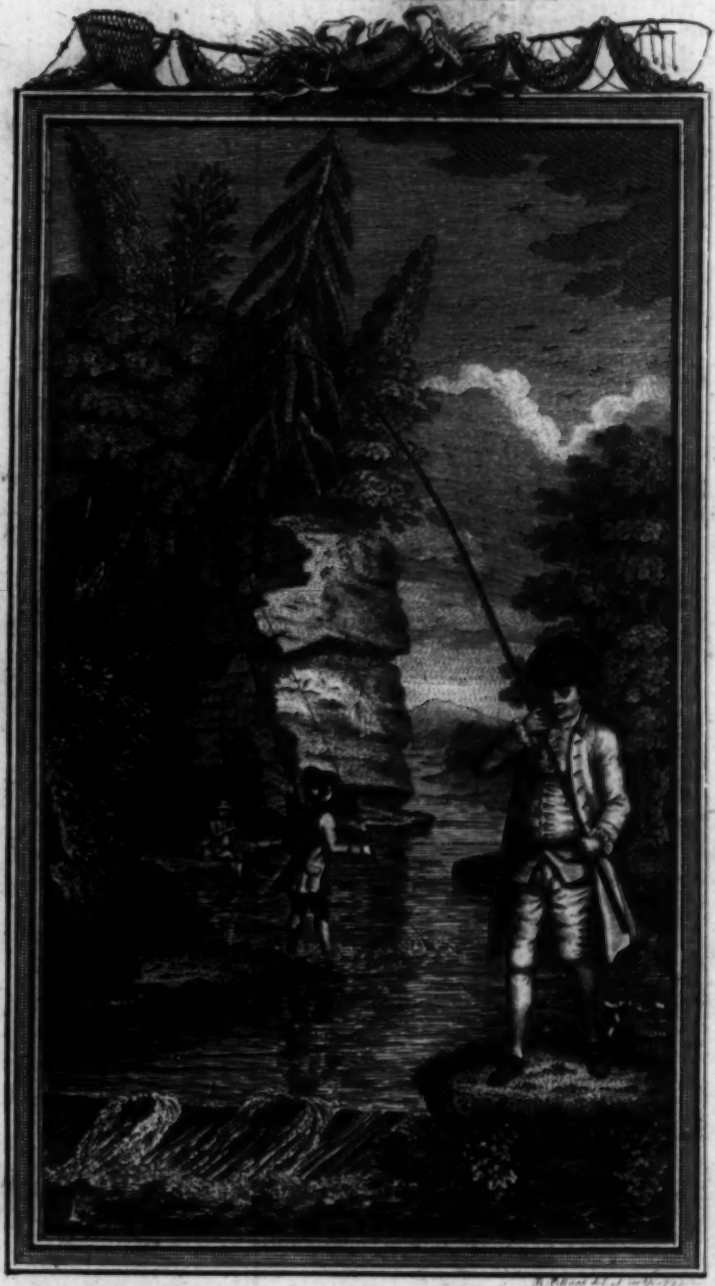

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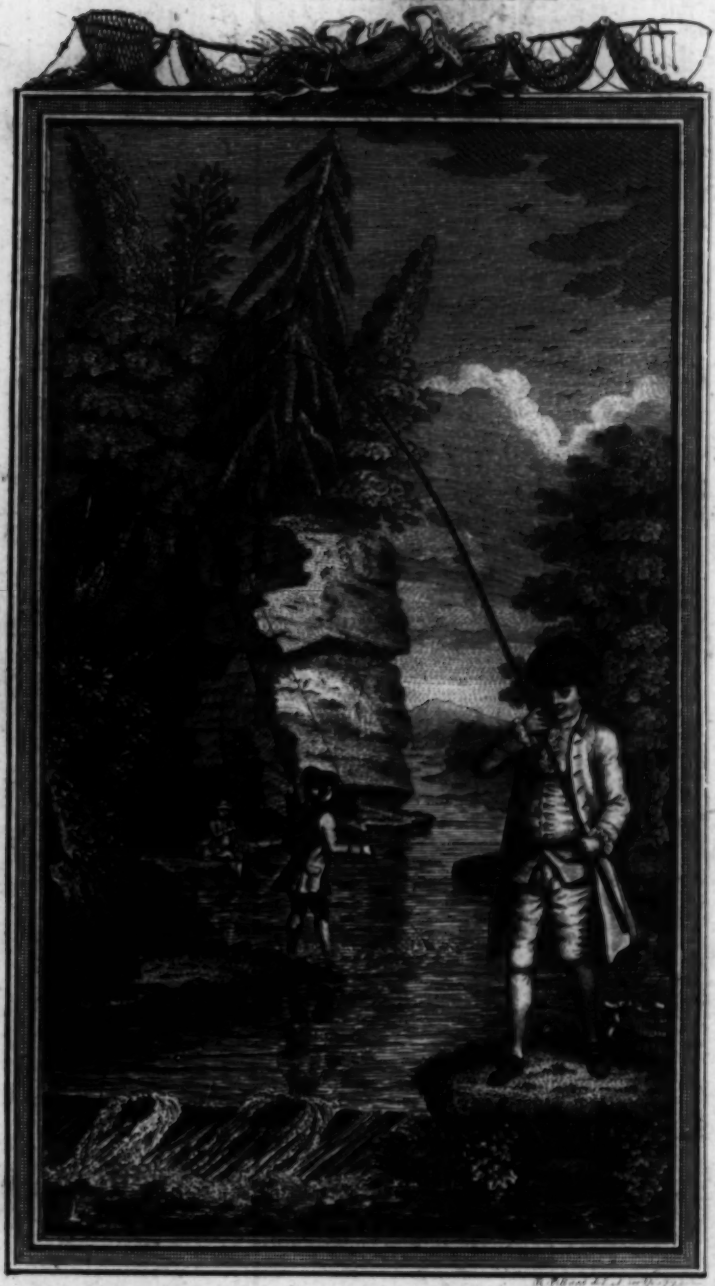

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THE

Complete Fisherman;

OR,

UNIVERSAL ANGLER:

CONTAINING

Full Directions for taking all Kinds of River Fish.

PARTICULARLY THE

TROUT,	BARBEL,	LAMPREY,
PIKE,	DACE,	MULLET,
CARP,	GUDGEON,	SALMON,
TENCH,	BREAM,	BLEAK,
PERCH,	GRAYLING,	SALMON TROUT,
CHUB,	EEL,	SMELT, &c. &c.
ROACH,		

To which is added

The WHOLE ART of FLY-FISHING;

With ample Instructions how to make the various ARTIFICIAL FLIES proper for Use in every Month of the Year.

LIKEWISE

A Compendious Account of the principal SEA-FISH; their NATURE, QUALITIES, and the METHOD OF CATCHING THEM, &c.

And to the Whole are prefixed

GENERAL REMARKS and OBSERVATIONS,

Proper to be attended to by all FISHERMEN.

THE THIRD EDITION.

Delightful is the Angler's life,
Free from toil, and free from strife;
On flowery banks he spends the day,
Each passing month as sweet as May.

LONDON:

Printed for FIELDING and WALKER, in Pater-noster-Row.

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GENERAL

Remarks and Obſervations,

Proper to be attended to by all

FISHERMEN.

PATIENCE is one of the firſt requiſites for a fiſherman; as it frequently happens that he muſt exerciſe this virtue a whole day, without having any ſport.

During all the winter months, and in March, the beginning of April, and September, if the ſun ſhines, the air be clear, and there is no wind, fiſh bite beſt in the middle of the day.

From the middle of April to the end of Auguſt, the beſt hours to angle, in fine weather and clear water, are from ſun-riſe till ten o'clock, and from three till ſun-ſet. In cloudy weather, with any wind except the eaſterly, you may catch fiſh all day. In a muddy ſtream you may likewiſe angle at all hours, from April to Auguſt, though mornings and evenings are the propereſt times. Fiſh in general bite beſt in rapid, ſtony, and gravelly rivers; and better in ſummer than in winter. Fiſh bite well when they come into ſandy fords to rub themſelves, a little before they ſpawn.

Anglers muſt be careful to keep out of the ſight of the fiſh, by ſtanding far from the bank: but muddy water renders this caution unneceſſary.—Fiſh only in waters that are common, except you obtain permiſſion of the owner. It is proper to angle at ground, when the filth waſhed down by rain from the higher grounds is carried away by floods, and the river appears of a brown, cheſnut, or ale-colour. You may angle at ground with a fly, after, or during a moderate ſhower.

After dark, cloudy, windy nights, or when the moon ſhines but little, you muſt not expect much ſport the following day, except for ſmall fiſh, for then trout and other large fiſh range in ſearch of prey. Angling is purſued with moſt ſucceſs from the beginning of May, to the beginning of September. Writers on this ſubject have directed that anglers ſhould wear dark-coloured cloaths, as the more glaring colours are apt to fright the fiſh.

Fiſh ſometimes bite well at the conflux of rivers, and where the tide ebbs and flows, but uſually in the ebb. The ſouth-weſt, the weſt, and the ſouth winds are moſt favourable to anglers.

To induce fiſh to come where you wiſh to angle, throw in boiled corn, worms, &c. and to keep them to the place, throw in grains of ground malt; but for ſalmon and trout, a compoſition of ground malt, blood, and clay, is the beſt.

When

When you have hooked a fiſh, never ſuffer him to run out with the line; but keep your rod bent, and as near perpendicular as you can: by this method the top plies to every pull he makes, and you prevent the ſtraining of your line, for the ſame reaſon.

Never raiſe a large fiſh out of the water by taking the hair to which your hook is faſtened, or indeed any part of the line, into your hand; but either put a landing-net under him, or for want of that, your hat: you may, in fly-fiſhing, lay hold of your line to draw a fiſh to you; but this muſt be done with caution.

Your ſilk for whipping hooks and other fine work, muſt be very ſmall; uſe it double, and wax it, and indeed any other kind of binding, with ſhoemaker's wax, which, of all wax, is the tougheſt, and holds beſt: if your wax be too ſtiff, temper it with tallow.

Encloſe the knots and joints of your lines in a ſmall pill of wax, preſſed very cloſe, and the ſuperfluities pinched off: this will ſoon harden, and prevent the knots from drawing.

If, for ſtrong fiſhing, you uſe graſs, which, when you can get it fine, is to be preferred to gut, remember always to ſoak it about an hour in water before you uſe it: this will make it tough, and prevent its kinking.

Whenever you begin fiſhing, wet the ends of the joints of your rod; which will prevent their looſening, becauſe it makes them ſwell: and if you happen, either by rain or otherwiſe,

to wet your rod ſo that you cannot pull the joints aſunder, turn the ferrel a few times round in the flame of a candle, and they will eaſily ſeparate.

Before you fix the loop of briſtle to your hook, in order to make a fly, to prevent its drawing, be ſure to ſinge the ends of it in the flame of a candle: do the ſame by the hair, to which at any time you may whip a hook.

Make flies in warm weather only; for in cold weather your waxed ſilk will not draw.

In rainy weather, or when the ſeaſon for fiſhing is over, repair whatever damage your tackle has ſuſtained.

Never regard what bunglers and ſlovens tell you; but believe that neatneſs in your tackle, and a nice and curious hand in all your work, eſpecially in fly-making, are abſolutely neceſſary.

If at any time you happen to be over-heated with walking, or other exerciſe, avoid ſmall liquors, eſpecially water, as you would poiſon; and rather take a glaſs of rum or brandy; the inſtanteous effects whereof, in cooling the body, and quenching drought, are amazing.

The following are deemed PROPER TIMES *for* ANGLING.

In calm clear weather. In a briſk ſouth or weſt breeze; if you can find ſhelter, no matter how high it be. When in the hotteſt months it is cool and cloudy. After floods, when the water

water fines, and is of a whey-colour. After a haſty violent ſhower has a little muddied and ſwelled the tide; eſpecially for ground-fiſhing. When a river is very much ſwelled, and it runs violent in any ſtill pit, then by its ſides: the mouth of any ſlow creek running into it, and the ends of bridges where the water runs calm and quiet, if not too deep. There is admirable ſport when flaſhes are let down, or mills ſet going, if you follow the courſe of the water.

The following are deemed IMPROPER TIMES *or* PLACES *for* ANGLING.

In a ſtrong eaſt or cold north wind. After a long drought. In the middle of days that are exceſſive hot and bright, eſpecially in muddy, or clear ſhallow rivers. When there has been a white froſt in the morning. In days of high wind. Where they have been long waſhing ſheep. Juſt after fiſh have ſpawned. Upon riſing of any ſudden clouds that are likely to precede rain. The days following dark, clouded, or windy nights. When rivers, eſpecially ſmall ones, are pent up by flood-gates, or mills, and run low.

Of WORMS.

1. The MARSH WORM. This is of a blueiſh colour, and is procured from marſhy ground on the banks of rivers. It is a probable bait with

with which to take gudgeon, grayling, trout, perch, bream, flounders, and ſalmon-ſmelts, in the months of March, April, and September; but it is likewiſe uſed, in preference to other baits, from Candlemas to Michaelmas.

2. The EARTH-BOB, or White Grub, is a worm with a red head, as large as two maggots, and is ſoft, and full of whitiſh guts. It is found in a light ſandy ſoil; and when the land is firſt ploughed up from grazing, you may gather them in great numbers by following the plough. The crows direct where to find this worm, for in ſuch places they follow the plough very cloſely. This is properly a winter-bait, and laſts from the beginning of November to the middle of April. The method of keeping them is in a veſſel ſtopped cloſe, with a proper quantity of the earth in which they were bred; and thus kept, they are fit for uſe all the winter. It is a proper bait for chub, roach, dace, bream, ſalmon-ſmelts, trout, carp, and tench.

3. The CLAP-BAIT, or Bott. This reſembles a gentle, but is larger, and is found under cow-dung. It is to be ſought after only on land that is light and ſandy, for it is much of the ſame nature as the earth-bob, and may be kept in wet moſs for two or three days. It is an admirable bait for a trout, but will be taken by almoſt any other fiſh.

4. The FLAG-WORM, or Dock-Worm. This is found in the roots of flags that grow on

on the brink of an old pond. Having pulled up the root, you will find, among the fibres of it, ſome reddiſh or yellowiſh caſes. Open theſe with a pin, and you will find in them a ſmall worm, longer and ſlenderer than a gentle, with a red head, a paliſh body, and rows of feet all down the belly. It is deemed an excellent bait for carp, tench, grayling, bream, roach, and dace.

5. The BRANDLING, Gilt-Tail, and Red-Worm. Theſe are to be found in old dung-hills, or the rotten earth near them; but the beſt are met with in tanners yards, under the heaps of bark they throw out when it is become uſeleſs to them; but the brandling is very often found in hogs-dung. Gudgeons, perch, trout, graylings, tench, bream, ſalmon-ſmelts, or any fiſh that takes a worm, may be ſucceſsfully fiſhed for with theſe baits.

6. The TAG-TAIL is of a pale fleſh-colour, with a yellow tag on his tail almoſt half an inch long. It is found, after a ſhower of rain, in marled land, or meadows, and is deemed a good bait for trout, when fiſhed for after the water has been diſcoloured by rain.

7. The LOB-WORM, Dew-Worm, Garden-Worm, or Twatchel. Theſe are but different names for the ſame worm, which is a good bait for ſalmon, trout, chub, barbel, and very large eels. They are found in gardens, and likewiſe in Church-yards, late on a ſummer-evening,

evening, by the help of a lantern. When they do not appear, through the extreme drought of the weather, they may be driven out of the ground, by pouring the juice of walnut-tree leaves, mixed with a little water and ſalt, into their holes.

8. The Ash-Grub. This may be procured at any time from Michaelmas to June. It is a milk-white worm with a red-head, and is to be found under the bark of the oak, aſh, alder, or birch, if they have lain a year after being cut down. It is alſo found under the bark of the decayed ſtump of a tree, and in the body of a rotten alder, if broken with an axe. It is a good bait for roach, dace, grayling, and chub.

9. The Cod-Bait, Cadis-Worm, and Straw-Worm. Theſe are various names for the ſame baits, which are to be found in pits, ponds, brooks, and ditches, and are covered with huſks of ſticks, ſtraw, or ruſhes, and ſtones. Thoſe with ſtones or gravel huſks are found only in brooks, and thoſe with ſtraw and ruſhes in ponds; but all the different ſorts may be found in the ſame ſeaſon. They are deemed good bait for trout, grayling, carp, tench, bream, chub, bleak, dace, roach, and ſalmon-ſmelts.

The cod-bait fiſhing commences about the ninth of May, is the earlieſt bait uſed in a morning, and may be uſed till noon. This bait

bait is good till the middle of June, and ſhould be uſed with a hook leaded on the ſhank, and the cod-bait drawn on to the top of it. It will anſwer in deep water as well as in ſwift ſtreams, by moving it up and down ten or twelve inches from the ground. If the water be clear, it is a good bottom-bait, and is greatly to be preferred to the worm, ſince it is taken greedily by all the pool fiſh.

Excluſive of thoſe worms above-mentioned which are to be found in the earth, there are ſeveral others which breed on trees and herbs, and afterwards become flies. Of theſe the chief are the oak-worm, caterpillar, crabtree-worm, and palmer-worm. It is proper to keep theſe in ſmall boxes to let in the air, and they muſt be fed with leaves of the ſame kind of tree on which they are found. They are good bait for roach, dace, chub, grayling, and trout.

Worms of all kinds ſhould be well ſcoured in moſs which has been well waſhed and cleanſed. When it is wrung very dry, both the moſs and worms ſhould be put into an earthen pot cloſe ſtopped, that they may not crawl out. In ſummer time this pot ſhould ſtand cool, and the moſs be changed only once a week.

Worms in general (except the earth-bob) are the better for being kept: but if you have not taken care to keep them, the way to cleanſe and ſcour them for immediate uſe, is to lay your lob-worms all night in water, and then put

put them in your bag with fennel: but brandlings ſhould not lay more than an hour in the water. Worms in general are beſt ſcoured by putting them for an hour in grains and blood, and then removing them into clean moſs.

THE

THE

Complete Fiſherman.

Of the TROUT.

OF this fiſh there are ſeveral kinds, but the red and yellow are eſteemed the beſt; and the female is preferred to the male, having a deeper body and a leſs head. The trout is more like a ſalmon than any other fiſh; his head ſhort and roundiſh, his noſe blunt, his tail broad, and his body thick; his jaws, palate, and tongue, are all ſupplied with teeth. They are fond of ſtriving againſt the ſtream in ſmall rapid rivers. The trout depoſits her ſpawn in holes, in gravelly or ſtoney places, in November and December. This fiſh is fitteſt for the table in July and Auguſt; but they begin to be in ſeaſon in March. The beſt baits for the trout are worms, minnows and flies, either natural or artificial. The beſt worms are the lob-worm and brandling, of the latter two on a hook; but earth-worms, dung-worms and maggots, are commonly uſed. In fiſhing at the bottom, the lob-worm is preferred to all others. Trouts are fond of lying in holes covered with boughs,

under the roots of trees; and here generally the largeſt fiſh lie. They often lurk for their prey under weeds, banks, or large ſtones. When their heads are ſeen in any of theſe ſituations, go up the ſtream, and make the water foul; then put your bait cautiouſly into the troubled place, keep out of ſight, and follow your float. When you fiſh for trout in this way, it muſt be with a minnow, or two lob-worms well ſcoured: having put one worm on the hook with the head-foremoſt, put on the other with the tail foremoſt, then draw the firſt to it ſo as they may appear to be engendering; for in this poſition they often fall from the banks, and become a prey to the trout. Lob-worms are likewiſe good baits in the night, in the twilight of the morning, or duſk of the evening: the largeſt trouts are catched at theſe times, by throwing the bait gently acroſs the ſtream, and drawing it to you cautiouſly on the top of the water. You fiſh beſt with worms when the water is cleared after a flood, or in windy, dark and gloomy weather. When you angle for a trout in foul water, with a dew-worm for a bait, thruſt the hook in towards the tail, above the middle, and bringing it out below the head, draw the worm above the arming of the hook, and put the point into the head of the worm till it nearly reaches the place where the hook firſt came out, and draw back that part of the worm which was above the ſhank.

In angling for trout with flies, your line ſhould be three times as long as the rod; and let the top of the rod be very ſlender, that the fly may be thrown with eaſe and certainty; for the fly will ſoon be loſt, if the rod is too ſtiff. When you angle in this manner, the wind ſhould blow down the ſtream, which will aſſiſt you in laying the fly on the water before it is touched by the line; for the fiſh will be frightened away if the line firſt touch the water.

The

The trout bites beſt from ſun-riſing till eleven in the morning, and from two in the afternoon till ſun-ſet, but the prime times for taking them are nine in the morning, and three in the afternoon, with the wind at South: at this time a bull-head, with the gill-fens cut off, or even a minnow, makes a good bait. In fiſhing for trout you need not be nice in the choice of flies, for theſe fiſh are not difficult of choice. The trout will take almoſt any fly at the top, any ſmall fiſh in the middle, or any worm at the bottom of the water.

You may dib for a trout with a fly or graſshopper, under a buſh, by the ſide of a bank, with a ſhort line and ſtrong rod; and, and if after five or ſix trials, they do not riſe, you may conclude that they diſlike your bait, or that no trouts are there. When a trout appears near the top of the water, he will take the oak-worm upon it, rather than the fly; and when the flies are dead, ſtrip them of their wings, and fiſh with them at mid-water. This is an approved method. Some perſons dib for trout as for chub, letting the fly drop very lightly into the water, and having kept it gliding on the ſurface, ſink it, and riſe it ſuddenly, with a ſtrong rod, and ſhort ſtrong line; but the fiſherman muſt keep out of ſight, or the prey will be loſt. Dibbing with the green drake-fly whilſt living is thus practiſed. Get numbers of them; put them in a long draw-box, having holes to admit the air. They will continue lively for a night or more: take out one by the wings, and run the point of the hook through the thickeſt part of the body: then put on the other with the head the contrary way, and they will thus live a quarter of an hour, playing with their wings; but your bait will be ſpoiled if you do not keep their wings dry.

The ſtone-fly makes a good dibber in the ſtreams, and from eight till eleven at night; and an artficial

fly will alſo kill at theſe laſt-mentioned hours. Some recommend the cad-bait on the point of the hook with the artificial fly: others angle with the cad-bait on the water as with a fly; but neither place it on the ſhank of the hook, nor bring it into the bend. If the water is not violent, place a ſlender lead on the ſhank, and draw the cad-bait over it; then raiſe it frequently from the bottom, and let it ſink again. A head of black ſilk, and a body of yellow wax, or ſhamoy, makes a good imitation of the cad-bait.

An effectual method of killing a trout is this: Of the feather of a land-rail make a pair of wings; and point the hook with one cadis or more: let the hook be briſtled, the head of the cadis kept cloſe to the wings; let your line be three yards long, and the rod five. Throw the wings and cadis up the ſtream, which will drive it under water towards the lower part of the hole: then draw it gently up the ſtream, in an irregular manner, ſhaking the rod, and you will ſoon hook the trout, if there be any.

Of the PIKE.

THIS fiſh is likewiſe called the *Luce* or *Pickerel*, and is remarkable for its voracious appetite. The head of it is flat, the back rather ſquare, the ſnout projecting, and the form of the body long: the tail is forked, and the mouth wide: the body is covered with ſmall thick ſcales; the belly white; the ſides ſpotted with yellow; the eyes of a gold colour; the head and gills ſpotted with ſmall holes; it has teeth in the lower jaw, which are crooked, and three rows of teeth in the palate.

Theſe

Theſe fiſh uſually ſpawn in ditches, in the month of March. They breed very faſt, and grow to the length of ſixteen inches in the firſt year. When at the length of thirty inches they encreaſe in thickneſs. The fleſh of the river pike is firm, dry, white, and ſweet, and they are ſaid to eat beſt when between the weight of three and twelve pounds. They are not fit to eat in March or April, being ſpawning time: but ſix weeks before or after theſe months, and during the reſt of the year, they are in great perfection.

Pikes covet ſhady, quiet water, where they lurk among flags, weeds and bull-ruſhes: though they often range thence in ſearch of prey. In winter they lay near the bottom, but in warmer weather get into the ſhallows. In clear, ſultry weather, a pike will lay at the top of the water; but he will not then bite.

Early in the morning, and late in the evening, if the wind be briſk, and the water clear, this fiſh bites freely; but if he once rejects the bite, he will never take it afterwards in that ſpot.——The beſt baits are young bleak, roach, dace, loaches, gudgeons, and minnows. Frogs and ſalmon-ſmelts are good baits in July, and fat bacon in winter.

The principal ways of fiſhing for a pike are trowling, trimmer-angling, and ſnap-angling. For trowling the line ſhould be forty yards long, or more, according to the breadth of the river, and made of green ſilk or thread. Take care your line does not tangle; for if it does, the pike will leave the bait after he has ſeized it. When your bait has ſunk a conſiderable depth, and you ſee or feel the pike coming, give him line enough. When the line moves, you may judge he has ſwallowed the bait; then wind up the line, and, by a ſudden jerk,

the contrary way to what the fiſh takes, hook him, and land him as ſoon as poſſible.

Trimmer-angling is practiſed in a canal, meer, or pond, or the ſtill part of a river. Provide a cork ſix inches in diameter, with a groove whereon to wind part of your line, leaving at the hook-end as much as will let the bait hang at mid-water, and at the other end a proper length to faſten it to a bank or buſh; and there leave it while you angle in other places. When the pike takes the bait, the line will run off the trimmer without checking him: but when you take up the line, check it, and ſecure your fiſh. This method is often practiſed in the night.

The ſnap conſiſts of two large hooks placed back to back, and a perch-hook in the middle, on which hang by the back-fin a ſmall roach, gudgeon, or dace: let it thus ſwim down the ſtream, and give it a jerk when the float is under water, for you may then conclude the pike has bit: keep your line ſtrait; draw him quick to the ſhore, and take him up with your landing-net. The line ſhould be ſhorter than the rod, and ſome braſs-wire or gimp next the hook. Pikes are taken by two other methods, called ſnaring and hooking. From May to the end of July, in hot weather, pikes lay on the ſurface. Then tie a piece of pack-thread, about five feet in length, to a pole, fixing a running nooſe of wire at the end of it, which nooſe may be eaſily put over the head and gill-fins of the fiſh, which is brought to land by a ſudden jerk. The other method is, to take a line ſeven or eight feet long, and arm it to a very large hook, with the ſhank neatly leaded, that its weight may guide it; and thus pikes may be ſtruck when ſoaring near the ſurface: or four hooks may be placed back to back, at the end of ſuch a line: but theſe methods are not much practiſed by the fair angler.

In

In trowling for pike, chuſe clear water, and windy weather, provided the wind be not at eaſt. The uſual hook for a living bait conſiſts of two large hooks on one ſhank, made of a ſingle piece of wire, three quarters of an inch in length, the hooks placed back to back, but their points not in a right line, but inclining inwards, ſo as to form an angle with the ſhank. Leave a loop by the bending of the wire at the top of the ſhank, ſo as to make the hook double: through this loop put a ſtrong twiſted braſs wire, ſix inches in length: to this ſuch another link muſt be looped, but both ſo looſe that the lower link and the hook may have room to play. A ſteel ſwivel is to be faſtened at the end of the line.

Both in trowling and ſnapping cut away one of the fins of the bait-fiſh behind the vent, and another cloſe at the gills on the oppoſite ſide; by which it will play the better. When your bait is thrown, let it ſometimes ſink, then riſe it, and pull it with and againſt the ſtream, ſo that it may appear like the motion of a ſmall fiſh. The pike will greedily ſeize it, and retreat to his hole: in about ten minutes he will pouch it, and the line moving, jerk him twice, and then play him. Pike are often catched by water-frogs, and the beſt for the purpoſe is the yelloweſt that can be got. At the fiſhing-tackle ſhops may be had all kinds of hooks for pike.

Of the CARP.

THIS fiſh will grow to above four feet in length, and thick in proportion. It has no teeth, but two bones in the throat, and a triangular one in the palate, which ſupply the deficiency. Two yellow

low appendages hang from the upper lip. The tail is broad, and ſomewhat forked; its colour a black approaching to red. The ſcales are large, the head ſhort, the mouth of a middle ſize; the lips yellow, fleſhy and fat; it has no tongue, but a fleſhy palate which reſembles one; and the colour of the fiſh, when full grown, approaches to yellow. Theſe fiſh ſpawn ſeveral times a year, but chiefly in May and Auguſt; and are in the higheſt perfection in April. No fiſh lives ſo long out of water as a Carp, the wholeſomeneſs of which depends on the water in which it has been produced. The river carp, which are better than thoſe of the pond, delight not in rapid ſtreams, but covet deep water, with a bottom of marl or clay, intermixed with green weeds.

The carp is a ſly, cautious fiſh, and will exerciſe the patience of the angler. In cold weather he ſeldom bites, and in hot weather muſt be fiſhed for early in the morning, or late in the evening: but when he once bites, you may be certain of catching him. In March he takes the red-worm, in June the cadew, and from July till September the graſshopper; but it has lately been diſcovered that half-boiled green-peas, covered with butter, is an excellent bait for this fiſh. The carp will take a lob-worm at the top of the water in hot weather: or it may be ſunk about eight inches, without a float, in a clear ſtream between the weeds: have only one large ſhot to your line, which you muſt lodge on the leaf of a weed: then draw back; and ſtrike when you ſee the ſhot taken away with a foot of the line, and keep your fiſh tight, and clear of the weeds.

A place being found where carp are likely to reſort, plumb the ground over-night to know the depth of the water, and put in a compoſition of bran, malt, wheat, or rye, mixed with congealed blood. Early in the morning go to the place; but be cautious not

to

to be ſeen; when your float ſails, ſtrike with ſtrength, the oppoſite way from the float, that you may not pull the bait from the mouth of the fiſh; and be careful that he does not cut your line with the ſaw-fin on his back. A landing-net is uſeful in carp-fiſhing; but if you have none, play the fiſh till you get him into ſhallow-water, and fixing your rod upright in the ground, throw the fiſh on the land with both your hands.

The following paſte is recommended as good to catch carp. Raw veal, fine flour, and honey, pounded in a mortar, with as much cotton-wool as will bind the ingredients together: or bread mixed into a paſte with cotton-wool, and the water in which you fiſh. This fiſh will take green figs, currants, or a graſs-hopper without its wings: or two gentles on one hook will do for pond-carp, chewed bread being firſt thrown into the place.

The beſt method of taking theſe fiſh in ponds, is to throw in ſlices or crumbs of bread; and when they have fed, bait with the upper-cruſt of a raſped French roll of the ſize of a horſe-bean. Your rod muſt be long, your line ſtrong, and the hook of a middle ſize, with the ſhot fixed juſt above it.

Of the TENCH.

THIS fiſh delights in the ſtill parts of rivers, or in ponds, and is ſuppoſed to be a native of ſtanding water. They are in their higheſt perfection from September to May, and ſpawn in June and the beginning of July. They are ſhort, thick, and rather round, and three times longer than broad. The belly-fins of the male are much larger than

than thoſe of the female. The taſte of this fiſh is agreeable, but it is ſaid not to be eaſy of digeſtion; and it is conſtantly refuſed to ſick people, as being deemed rather unwholeſome. They will not bite after a ſhower of rain; but at all other times, particularly in the night: and the beſt judges ſay their beſt time of biting is during the three hot months. They may be ſnared at the top of the water in hot weather, as a pike is, with a double-wired link, not twiſted too tight, hung in a nooſe, and faſtened to a long rod, or tied to a line. Let the implement fall ſoftly before the fiſh, bring it over his gills, and he is eaſily taken by a gentle pull.

The following are admirable baits for this fiſh. A boiled grub, a green grub, a young waſp, a gentle, a lob-worm of the middle ſize, or a red-worm, well ſcoured. Some uſe the black clotted blood of a ſheep's heart, made into a conſiſtence with flour and honey; and a red-worm anointed with this is ſaid to be an excellent bait. Others uſe a red-worm dipped in tar, which has been very ſucceſsful. Theſe fiſh bite pretty much in the ſame way as pond-carp, and will run away with the float; but if once hooked, and the tackle be ſtrong, they are ſeldom loſt. Blood, or a mixture of blood and grains, makes the ground-bait for this fiſh.

In hot weather fiſh near the mid-water, drawing the bait gently towards the ſurface, and letting it fall in the ſloweſt manner. When the fiſh bites, allow him time to ſuck the bait, of which he is fond, and will not leave it; but if you ſtrike too eagerly, you may loſe him. In rivers you ſhould prefer a cork; but in ponds uſe a ſtrong graſs, or gut, and a gooſe-quill float without a cork. When you bait with gentles, throw in a few after taking each fiſh, by which they will be kept together, and the more

eaſily

eaſily catched. Mix tar with your paſte when you angle with it, and remember that the beſt time for fiſhing is an hour before and after the riſing and ſetting of the ſun.

Of the PERCH.

THE greateſt length of this fiſh is generally from twelve to fourteen inches, at its utmoſt growth; but it has been known of the length of fifteen inches. It is rather broad than long, and the back is ſomething like that of a hog. Its colour is a duſky yellow, and from the back towards the belly there runs five or ſix blackiſh places like girdles. This fiſh is wholeſome, agreeable in taſte, firm, and eaſy of digeſtion; but the liver being often meaſly, it is not cuſtomary to eat it. They ſpawn annually, about the end of February; and it is ſaid that the fins of the male are of a deeper red than thoſe of the female.

The perch, being a very voracious fiſh, is generally roving during the day-time, in ſearch of food; but the likelieſt places to find him is in a gentle ſtream of moderate depth, or under the ſtumps of trees, the piles of bridges, or a hollow bank. They commonly retire to repoſe in a particular ſpot in the night, and if, early in the morning, you can find their lurking-place, you may probably take them all; for they commonly herd together, and bite without fear, the taking of one not in the leaſt diſcouraging the reſt. They will thrive if encloſed in a pond; but rivers are the more natural places of their reſidence.

Though this fiſh bites beſt in warm weather, yet in the midſt of ſummer he is eaſieſt taken, when it is

is windy, cloudy, and moderately cool, and from ſeven till ten in the morning, and from two in the afternoon till ſun-ſet. The perch will not bite early in the ſpring, and it is a maxim not to fiſh for him till the mulberry-tree begins to bud. If you do not meet with ſport ſoon after you begin to fiſh, quit the place; for this fiſh bites immediately: angle near the bottom, continually raiſing your bait almoſt to the top, and letting it gradually fall again.

Worms, minnows, and ſmall frogs are good baits, and the dock, or flag-worm, is deemed excellent: but two brandling-worms, well ſcoured in moſs, placed on one hook, is accounted a killing bait, except in the river Mole, and others that run into the Thames, where minnows are ſcarce. Theſe fiſh, which are not delicate in what they feed on, have been frequently catched with a fly, when fiſhing for trout, and ſometimes two at a time have been catched with red-worms on two hooks, angling for gudgeons. The gill of its own kind is a bait for this fiſh.

The perch has the largeſt mouth in proportion to its ſize of any fiſh: they inſtantly ſwallow within a foot of the ground. In fiſhing with a minnow or frog, they ſhould be allowed more time before you ſtrike, than when a worm is the bait. As a perch ſtruggles hard for life, he affords much ſport to the angler: when purſued by the pike, he ſets up his ſharp fins, and often ſaves his life. When a large perch bites, allow him time to ſwallow the bait; but if the fiſh be ſmall, ſtrike inſtantly, particularly if you bait with a brandling-worm.

In baiting with a frog, thruſt the hook through its leg, near the thigh, and keep your bait as far from ſhore as you can, for he will be conſtantly making thither. Good ſport is to be expected at the eddy of the water, where there is a gravel-ſcour; and your

your tackle ſhould be always ſtrong, as in fiſhing for perch, pikes are frequently taken.

In angling for perch with a worm, obſerve theſe directions: Uſe the red-worm at bottom in March: In April, a red-ſnail, the oak-worm, or a young frog with its feet cut off: In May, the dock-worm, or the inſect that is found on the hawthorn, oak-leaf, or oſier-leaf: In June, the dor, or the cod-bait put before the red-worm with the head cut off: In July, the dunghill-grub, or large graſshopper: In Auguſt, and the ſucceeding months, brandlings, or red-worms; and two or three gentles at all other times.

Of the CHUB.

THIS fiſh likewiſe bears the name of chevin. The head of it is flatter and larger than the dace, and its make longer than that of the carp; and its back is a dead green. It generally lurks in holes, under the ſhade of trees, in a clayey or ſandy bottom. They uſually ſwim in bodies together, and do not quit the places they have been uſed to. They have been met with of eight pounds weight. Their common time of ſpawning is May, in the middle of the ſtream, among ſand or gravel; and while they are full of ſpawn, in the ſpring, they are deemed beſt for eating. The fleſh of the chub is white, ſoft, and almoſt inſipid; ſo that it is not much admired.

This fiſh generally ſwims at midwater, though ſometimes near the top, and may be taken by dibbing. You may angle for him from the beginning of May till September, from the dawn of the morning till nine o'clock; and from the beginning of June to the end of Auguſt, from five in the evening till

night; and all night long with a white moth. In the winter he lies low, and is fiſhed for with freſh brains of an ox or cow; but beſides your bait, a ſmall quantity ſhould be mixt with water, and thrown in where you fiſh. The ſpinal marrow of an ox is likewiſe an excellent bait in winter. But the chub will take almoſt any bait, viz. worms, gentles, the brood of waſps, black-berries, dew-berries, black ſnails with their bellies ſlit, graſshoppers, new cheeſe, and paſte of all kinds. A large bait ſuits this fiſh beſt. In ſummer time, at mid-water, five or ſix of the grubs found on cabbages or nettles, or any or all theſe, mixed with flies, form an excellent bait.

In the cool months, and likewiſe in Auguſt, a good bait is formed by pounding ſtrong cheeſe with butter, and as much ſaffron as will turn it to a lemon-colour. They will likewiſe bite freely at a minnow. In chub-fiſhing, remember to angle at mid-water, or higher, in hot weather, and near the bottom in cold. Let your line be long, and keep out of ſight when you fiſh near the top with a beetle or fly. When you uſe a fly, let it be a large hackle, and point your hook with four or five large gentles. Your line muſt be fourteen or fifteen yards long: caſt it acroſs the ſtream; and let it go down with the current, as they take a fly better under water than at the top: your rod ſhould not be ſlender, and ſix yards long. Strike ſmartly when the line is drawn.

This fiſh is deemed beſt eating in winter, eſpecially baked: for the forked bones are then changed to a kind of griſtle. When you dib, the chub will take green caterpillars, aſh-flies, oak-worms, black ant-flies, or ſmall butter-flies with the great wings cut off. It is a cowardly fiſh, and ſoon yields when turned: nevertheleſs you muſt conquer him as ſoon as poſſible, for when he is hooked, he is apt to ſeek the banks, by which the tackle may be endangered.

On

On firſt throwing the bait, the fiſh flies from it, but ſoon returns and ſwallows it, if the fiſherman keeps out of ſight.

The following is an almoſt certain method of obtaining ſport with theſe fiſh. Procure ſome graſs-hoppers, and repairing to the holes where the chub float on the top of the water in hot days, put a graſs-hopper on your hook, and let it hang within a quarter of a yard of the water, by means of reſting the rod on a bough, keeping yourſelf out of ſight behind the tree. The fiſh generally ſinks to the bottom of the water, being frightened at the leaſt ſhadow; but ſoon riſes again; and when they lay ſoaring on the top, let the rod move gently towards the beſt fiſh you can fix your eye on, when he will be almoſt certain of biting at the bait, and of courſe be taken: but be careful to play him ſufficiently before you land him.

Of the ROACH.

THE breadth of this fiſh is about a third of its length. Its belly is pale, its back duſky, and ſometimes of a blue caſt. The gills are of a gold-colour, the month round, but it has no teeth, being what is called a leather-mouthed fiſh. The tail is forked, and this, as well as the fins, and the iris of the eyes, is of a red colour. Theſe fiſh breed both in ponds and rivers: thoſe of the rivers are deemed the beſt, though thoſe of the pond are the largeſt. Their time of ſpawning is in the middle of May, after which they recover their ſtrength in about a month. In angling for roach in a river, uſe one gentle: in a pond, throw in white bread chewed,

and having baited with a large gentle, lay the bait ſix inches from the bottom, and you will catch the largeſt fiſh, and with much more certainty than by any other method.

Paſte or gentles form the winter-bait for this fiſh: that for April is worms or cod-bait: when the weather is very hot, ſmall white ſnails, earth-bobs, new cheeſe, or flies under water; for the roach ſeldom takes them at the top, as the dace does; though theſe fiſh reſemble the dace in many other particulars.

There is much diverſion near London in the roach fiſhery. Hire a boat with rip-hooks, to fix it in the midſt of the ſtream. Make a ground-bait of bran and ſtale bread mixed into balls, with clay or ſmall ſtones to ſink it to the bottom. The beſt bait is three well-ſcoured gentles on a hook, and let them ſwim at about a foot from the bottom of the water. The time of fiſhing is from half-ebb tide, till within two hours of high-water, and the moſt proper places are oppoſite the Temple, Whitehall, Chelſea church, and the ſand-bank facing the Tower. Some perſons take their ſtands on the ſhore, near the Iſle of Dogs, and Limehouſe, and fiſh from the dead-ebb till within an hour of high-water.

A diverſion called ſtern-fiſhing, is practiſed below bridge. This is done by fixing a boat to the ſtern of a veſſel that has been a voyage, and is furniſhed with inſects fit for fiſh to feed on. In this fiſhing, your line ſhould not exceed four feet, your float ſhould be within twelve inches of the top of it, and your rod very ſhort: let the bait be three or four gentles, and lay in as cloſe as poſſible to the ſhip's ſtern, permitting your bait to ſwim eight or nine feet, and not more. You ſhould begin at the firſt of the ebb-tide, and will be certain of ſport for two hours or more; and will often catch dace, as well as roach.

Cold

Cold air, high wind, rough water, wet weather, the falling of the land-floods, or riſing of the ſpring-tides, are all objections to angling in the Thames: but much ſport may be expected at the Chalk-hill near the piles of London-Bridge, when the tide is low.

Of the BARBEL.

THIS fiſh is long, rather round, and his noſe ſharp. The upper jaw extends over the lower, but the mouth is not large: near the corner of his mouth he has two barbs, and two near the end of his ſnout; and from theſe he is ſaid to take his name. He is a handſome, well-ſhaped fiſh, the belly ſilver, the back olive, and both back and ſides ſpeckled with ſmall black ſpots. This fiſh is clean and ſound in ſummer, but ſick and languid in winter, not being able to endure the cold weather. They are deemed beſt in the month of September; but, upon the whole, they are not much eſteemed, the fleſh being ſoft and flabby. The ſpawn of this fiſh is very purgative, and ſome perſons think it a kind of poiſon. Their length is from twelve to eighteen inches, and the common weight from ſeven to eight pounds. Moſt rivers produce them, but they are particularly plentiful in the Thames. During the ſummer they haunt the ſwifteſt and ſhalloweſt ſtreams, where they ſkulk under the weeds, and rout up the ſand with the noſe. Sometimes, however, they retreat into deep waters, at weirs, locks, flood-gates, and bridges.

In the months of June, July, and Auguſt, this fiſh bites early in the morning, and from four in the afternoon till ſun-ſet; but ſome perſons prefer September

tember and October to any other months, becauſe they then retreat to their deep holes. In ſummer time they are eaſily taken with a ſcoured lob-worm, when they come to the ſhallows near ſun-ſet.

In fiſhing for the barbel, uſe a ſtrong rod, at the end of which ſhould be a tough whale-bone. Your line muſt be ſilk, except next the hook, where you muſt have ten hairs: put a large bullet on the line, but you have no occaſion for a float. You muſt fiſh at ground for the barbel, which will take bits of bacon, worms of any kind, or old or new cheeſe, if kept in a linen rag dipped in honey, to make it tough. This fiſh is very ſtrong, ſtruggles hard for its life, and will often pick off the bait, and fly with it. Theſe fiſh are to be met with at all the locks between Maidenhead and Oxford: but the moſt celebrated places near London for taking them are Chertſey-Bridge, Walton-Deeps, Hampton-Ferry, Sheperton-Deeps, Kingſton-Bridge, and the holes under Cooper's-Hill.

Of the DACE.

THIS fiſh bears a conſiderable likeneſs to the chub, but is in all reſpects ſmaller; the tail is more forked, and the body more flat, and whiter. He is a very active fiſh, breeds in moſt rivers, and in ſummer commonly lays near the top of the water. The dace ſpawns in February and March, and is good food during all the ſummer; but from September to February is in the higheſt perfection: and the fleſh is ſweet, ſoft, and nouriſhing. Theſe fiſh ſeek the deepeſt part of the river, under the ſhade of dock-leaves, or trees, and likewiſe delight in gravelly or ſandy bottoms. When

When you angle between two mill-ſtreams, let it be in the eddy: if the water be deep, fiſh within a foot of the bottom; but if ſhallow, bait your hook with three large gentles: make uſe of a cork-float, not more than eighteen inches from the hook, and ſtrike the moment the fiſh bites. The large dace uſually frequent the places above-mentioned.

Theſe fiſh are very ſimple, and bite freely; but their favourite bait is a gentle at bottom, and a ſmall fly at the top. The ant-fly is beſt in the ſummer months; but they will take all ſorts of ſmall worms, and paſte of every kind. They are angled for with a very ſmall rod, a ſmall hook, and a line of ſingle hairs from the top to the hook. Uſe one ſmall ſhot, and a float made of two quills of the ſea-gull, each cut within an inch of the feather, the open end of one thruſt into the other, and made faſt with fine ſilk waxed. Your tackle being thus prepared, throw ſome ſmall bits of chewed bread into the water, bait with gentles, and you need not doubt of ſucceſs. This fiſh will take flies of all kinds, and likewiſe an earth-bob in the ſpring, if the hook be pointed with one gentle. If you throw boiled malt in the water, and bait with grains, you will often catch chub and bream as well as dace.

Of the GUDGEON.

THESE fiſh are to be found in almoſt all the rivers of England, but grow to a larger ſize in ſome than in others. In the river Merſey they are found of the length of eight or nine inches; but the common ſize is from five to ſix. The ſcales are very ſmall, and the body ſmooth; the belly pale, and the back

back of a dark colour. They generally ſpawn in November, and likewiſe at the latter end of April. The taſte of the gudgeon is agreeable, it's digeſtion eaſy, and the fleſh nouriſhing; and ſome perſons deem them almoſt as good as ſmelts. They reſort to deep water in winter, but to ſhallow in ſummer; frequent ſmall rivers, and delight in gentle ſtreams, with gravelly or ſandy bottoms.

From the beginning of April till Michaelmas, the gudgeon will bite from an hour after the riſing, till an hour before the ſetting of the ſun: but if you angle in a place between four and five feet deep, which lies below a ſcower, has a ſandy bottom, and is near the ſpot where the fiſh bit at mid-day, you may ſometimes have excellent ſport an hour after ſun-ſet.

Theſe fiſh are caught in deeper water mornings and evenings, than at noon. When you try for them in the Thames, direct the waterman to rake up the gravel, that the gudgeons may come about you: then plumb the ground, and bait with a ſmall red-worm well ſcoured; the tackle being the ſame as for dace, and you will ſeldom fail of excellent ſport.

In angling for them in ſhallow places, rake up the ſand or gravel, which will make them flock about your bait: but if you have no rake or pole for this convenience, throw in ſome handfuls of earth. Make uſe of a float, and let your bait lay or drag on the ground. They ſometimes nibble before they take the bait, therefore be not too eager to ſtrike at the firſt biting.

The implements to catch this fiſh are a ſingle hair-line, a ſmall hook, a fine taper rod, and a float. The proper baits are the meadow-worm, brandling, red-worm, or brandling; but they prefer the ſmall red-worm to any other: however they will take the cod-

cod-bait, the gentle, the cow-dung bob, or the brood of waſps. As gudgeons are fond of the ſhade, an excellent place to angle for them is under a bridge or plank over a ſmall river. This is by no means a ſhy fiſh, but will inſtantly return to its uſual place of reſort after being driven away.

Of the BREAM.

THE largeſt general ſize of this fiſh does not exceed five pounds, though they have been known to weigh ten. The ſnout is ſharp, the head ſmall, and the fiſh broad and flat. The taſte of it is not generally eſteemed, though they may be cooked ſo as to make a very good diſh. The Thames produces very few bream, and the river Mole, in Surry, more than any other river in England: but they delight rather in ponds than in rivers: ſo that they are met with in ſuch parts of the river as have muddy or clayey bottoms, and reſemble ſtanding water: but never in ſwift, or rapid ſtreams. They generally ſwim together in conſiderable numbers.

The bream feeds on dirt, weeds, and ſlime; but will eat of various bait, as the dew-worm, or marſh-worm, well ſcoured, two or three large brandlings, or the large red-worm, all which are generally ſucceſsful in killing him: but he will take cod-baits, flies under water, the brood of bees or waſps, or any kind of paſte. Theſe fiſh are eatable in September, but are in their higheſt perfection in March and April, and ſpawn in May. They ſhould be angled for during a breeze of wind, but demand very diligent baiting to keep them together. The time

time of fiſhing for them is early in the morning, and from about three or four in the afternoon till ſunſet, in warm weather; and the moſt probable place to find them, is the deepeſt and broadeſt part of the river. They do not bite freely, and the largeſt fiſh are the moſt cautious: when a fiſh is ſtruck, he makes to the bottom, and will lay there a conſiderable time; but if he remains too long, give him a jerk, and he will inſtantly riſe, and pull violently two or three times; but when he is once turned, he is ſoon conquered. When the water is rough, the bait for this fiſh is to be placed within a foot of the ground.

The moſt approved method of angling for the bream, is to find a ſhallow, ſandy bottom, below which is a deep hole; throw into the ſhallows two or three handfuls of marſh-worms cut in pieces, which will ſoon be driven down to the hole. Your rod ſhould be ſtrong, and of a conſiderable length, and the line in proportion; the hook ſmall, and you muſt fiſh without a float. Tie your hook to India graſs, and on the graſs put a cut ſhot ſix inches from the hook, and above the ſhot a ſmall bullet, ſo that the ſhot may prevent the bullet from ſlipping down. This being done, bait the hook with a marſh-worm well ſcoured, throw it into the ſhallow, and it will ſoon be driven into the hole by the ſtream. An amazing number of fiſh has been known to be catched in a ſhort time by this method.

The following is likewiſe recommended as a ſucceſsful method of catching bream. Having found a hole near the bank, plumb its depth in the evening, and immediately bait it with grains well ſqueezed, mixed with blood. Go to the place early in the morning, and keeping out of ſight of the fiſh, bait with a large red-worm, and drop your hook gently into the hole. Good ſport may be expected if you angle

angle with gentles, or the brood of waſps, and bait with white bread chewed: but in this caſe your hook muſt be ſmaller, and your line and rod neither ſo ſtrong, nor ſo long.

Of the GRAYLING.

THIS fiſh is ſeldom above eighteen inches in length, or its weight more than a pound and a half; though in ſome places it is ſaid to have been found of thrice that weight: it is narrower and not ſo thick as the trout. The grayling ſpawns in May: it is eatable all the year, but in the higheſt perfection in December, at which time a black liſt runs down the back, and over the head and gills. The fleſh is deemed wholeſome; it is firm, white, and cleaves ike ſalmon, and the flavour of it is by many perſons preferred to that of all other river fiſh. It delights in the ſwift and clear parts of thoſe ſtreams which glide through mountainous places; and abounds in the rivers Trent, Derwen, Dove, Lug, Hodder, and Wye.

This fiſh is fond of graſs-hoppers, flies, worms, &c. and is frequently taken by theſe kind of baits; but a red-worm well ſcoured, and offered him at about four inches from the bottom, is likely to be preferable to any other bait. The mode of catching the trout, will ſerve in all reſpects for the grayling, only that the tackle muſt be finer. The ſilkworm gut, well waxed with virgin wax, is proper in fly-fiſhing for the grayling. He is a bolder fiſh, and leſs artful, than the trout, and will riſe to the fly, though frequently miſſed; and being never fond of deſcending, the bait ſhould be kept full nine inches from

from the ground, and a float is better than the running line. If you chuſe to try for him at ground, your baits ſhould be the brandling, bark-worm, flag-worm, cod-baits, gilt-tail, tag-tail, or meadow-worm, well ſcoured. At the top he may be taken with the earth-bob, clap-bait, or with natural or artificial flies. This fiſh is remarkably lively, and ſwims with uncommon ſpeed; but when he once feels the hook, he is ſoon conquered.

Of the EEL.

OF this fiſh there are four kinds, which are called the ſilver-eel, the greg, the red-finn'd eel, and the blackiſh eel. This laſt is leaſt in eſteem, and its head is larger, flatter, and broader than the reſt: but it is doubtful if theſe diſtinctions ariſe from nature or accident. The general names of diſtinction of the Thames eels are the greg, and the ſilver eel; the former being thicker, ſhorter, and of a darker colour than the latter.

The body of the eel is long, and its ſkin ſmooth, and covered with a ſlimy moiſture, that renders it extremely ſlippery. In cold weather theſe fiſh are fond of hiding in the mud, yet they have an averſion to muddy water, which is apt to ſuffocate them. They feed on earth-worms, ſmall fiſh, and ſnails, and are fond of ſmall frogs, the guts of fowls, ſalted beef, raw fleſh, lob-worms, and lampreys: but the more proper baits for them are roach, bleak, dace, and ſmall gudgeons. They uſually hide among weeds in the day-time, or under the roots of trees, among piles, planks, or boards of mills, weirs, or bridges, or under ſtones. In the time of a flood they

they are catched in nets at mill-dams, and ſimilar ſituations.

To angle for them, you muſt provide a ſtrong rod, the line the ſame as for trowling, the hook armed, and the bait muſt lie ledger, that is, it muſt be ſo fixed as to remain in one certain place, while the fiſherman is in another. The propereſt time to angle for eels is in gloomy, or rainy weather, particularly after a ſtorm of thunder. In eel fiſheries, great numbers have been catched by dipping in ſmall ſieves in clear weather, when they come up with the tide.

There is a method of catching eels with ſpears. A cord ſhould be faſtened thro' a hole bored at the top of one of the ſpears. In hot weather, when they lie in the deepeſt part of the pond, dart your ſpear into the mud, which will diſturb them ſo, that they will ſwim to the ſide of the pond, and again ſtrike into the mud. This will form a circle in the water, which will be a ſufficient guide where another ſpear is to be ſtruck; and by this method great numbers are taken.

Eels are likewiſe catched by means of night-hooks. Theſe are faſtened to the bank, or a tree, ſo that the fiſh cannot draw them away; and they are likewiſe taken by a number of hooks faſtened to a line, thrown acroſs the ſtream. This line ſhould be tied to a large plummet of lead, or a ſtone, which being thrown into the water in a remarkable place, may be found in the morning, and taken up with a drag-hook, or by any other method.

The following is an approved method of bobbing for eels, as extracted, verbatim, from a celebrated writer: "Provide a large quantity of well-ſcoured "lob-worms, and then, with a long needle, paſs "a thread through them from head to tail, until "you have ſtrung about a pound. Tie both ends "of the thread together, and then make them up

"into about a dozen or twenty links. The com-
"mon way is to wrap them about a dozen times
"round the hand, and then tying them altogether
"in one place, makes the links very readily. This
"done, faſten them all to a ſmall cord, or part of a
"trowling line, about four yards in length. Above
"the worms there ſhould be a ſmall loop to fix the
"worms to, for a lead plummet to reſt on. The
"plummet ſhould weigh about half a pound, or
"from that to a pound, according to the ſtream;
"the ſmaller the line, the leſs the plum: it ſhould
"be made in the ſhape of a pyramid, with a hole
"through the middle for the line to paſs through:
"the broad part of the plummet, or the baſe of the
"pyramid, ſhould be towards the worms, becauſe
"that will keep it more ſteady. When you have
"put your plummet on your line, you muſt faſten
"it to a ſtrong, ſtiff, taper pole, of about three yards
"long, and then the apparatus is finiſhed."

Having provided your tackling, as above deſcribed, angle either in the deeps or ſides of ſtreams, in muddy water, and the eels will preſently take the bait. To ſecure them, you muſt draw them gently towards the top of the water, and then get them into your boat, or on ſhore, by a ſudden jerk. Three or four fiſh have often been catched at once by this method.

A ſingular method of catching eels, is by ſniggling, or brogling. This is practiſed only in warm weather, and in ſhallow water. The requiſites for this fiſhing, are a ſtrong ſilk line, and a lob-worm, baited on a ſmall hook. At about eighteen inches from your bait, you muſt put your line into the cleft of a ſtick, which you muſt thruſt into ſuch holes as the eel is ſuppoſed to frequent, and they generally bite if there are any in the place. You muſt contrive that the line may readily diſengage from the ſtick, when the

the fiſh takes the bait. Having hooked your prey, let him tire himſelf with pulling, and you will more certainly ſecure him, than by attempting to draw him out haſtily.

In fiſhing for eels, it has ſometimes happened that pike and perch have been caught, by eel-hooks, baited with lob-worms, and ſmall fiſh. In this caſe the eel-hooks have been placed on a line, about four feet aſunder, having a heavy lead to ſink it. Sometimes eels have been caught by putting fowls guts, ſhreds of liver, &c. into a bundle of bruſh-wood, which being placed in the water over-night, they are eaſily pulled up. Sometimes, likewiſe, bottles of hay, looſely ſtuffed with the ſame ingredients, have taken numbers of them, by a ſudden pulling up, by means of a rope.

Authors differ with regard to the generation of eels: ſome affirm that there is no diſtinction of the ſex; while others ſay that they have been ſeen to copulate. The larger eels, eſpecially the females, endeavour to get into the ſea about Michaelmas, and return in the ſpring of the following year.

Of the EEL-POUT.

THIS fiſh is likewiſe diſtinguiſhed by the name of the Burbot. He is either without ſcales, or they are ſo ſmall as to be ſcarcely diſcernible. His colour is black, and not unlike a tench. His body is ſlippery, ſoft, and ſmooth, like an eel. He has teeth on each of his jaws, and his head is rather flat. His tail is bent in a form almoſt circular. He has a barb, half an inch long, from the lower jaw, and a ſhort pair of barbs, between the noſtrils and the ſnout.

Theſe fiſh ſpawn in December, and are remarkably prolific. Their moſt uſual places of reſidence, are the rivers Trent and Severn. They reſort to the ſame kind of retreats as eels do, provided it be within reach of the tide; and after a ſtorm of thunder and lightening, attended by a heavy rain, they are moſt certainly taken. The common length of this fiſh, is from fourteen to twenty inches, and they are deemed pleaſant and wholeſome food. A dace, roach, or ſmall gudgeon, is the beſt bait; but the hook muſt be armed, for the eel-pout ſtruggles hard for his life, is very ſtrong, and has ſharp teeth.

Of the LAMPREY.

THIS fiſh is alſo called the Lampern: its length is from ten to twelve inches, the belly of it is of a bright ſilver colour, and the back a grey, approaching to black. It has ſix or ſeven teeth, in a mouth of a round form, and is chiefly to be met with in the rivers Merſey and Iſis. The belly of this fiſh riſes and falls, in the ſame manner as in animals that breathe. The lamprey being apt to adhere to a rock, or ſtone, its mouth is frequently ſhut, to provide againſt inconvenience from which, nature has provided a hole on the top of the head, which is afterwards diſcharged by the gills, or ſeven holes, placed on each ſide, near the head: and from this circumſtance, ſome perſons call this fiſh the *ſeven-eyes*. The lamprey has not a ſingle bone in its body; but the want of theſe ſeems to be naturally ſupplied by the capſula of the heart being of a boney ſubſtance. Their mode of procreation is different from that of all other fiſh: the river lampreys get into the ſhallows,

lows, where they procreate with their bellies joined together, as hath been frequently obſerved. Theſe fiſh commonly ſpawn in April, and if cut in pieces, to the length of an inch and a quarter, furniſh excellent bait for night-hooks. Their fleſh is ſoft and glutinous, and they are commonly eaten potted; but they are not deemed ſo wholeſome as agreeable.

The blind LAMPREY, a ſpecies of this fiſh, is deemed an excellent bait for chubs and eels. This fiſh has neither tongue nor teeth, but a round mouth, which is conſtantly open: it has no ſcales, and is round and ſmall, like a lob-worm, or dew-worm; but it has a hole on its head, and ſeven holes on each ſide, inſtead of gills, as in the fiſh above-mentioned.

Of the LAMPREY EEL.

THIS fiſh has a ſmall hole on its head, with a white ſpot behind it, and this hole anſwers the ſame end as that in the lamprey. It has gills concealed under the ſeven holes, placed on each ſide. Its mouth is very jagged, and its teeth large. It has no bones, but the griſtle of the back is filled with marrow. The ſkin is blackiſh, but almoſt covered with angular ſpots, of a pale colour. They are found in great plenty in the rivers, where they ſpawn, though they live chiefly in the ſea. They are in the higheſt perfection when they enter the rivers in March, in order to ſpawn; and in April they depoſit their ſpawn in a gravelly bottom. After ſpawning, they retreat to the ſea, leaving their brood behind them, and theſe, having hid in the ſand, become about five inches long at three

months old, and are then catched by boys, who throw them on the bank with the ſand. It is ſaid that the lamprey-eel has been found in the Severn of the length of three feet. Theſe fiſh are ſeldom angled for, but ſometimes catched with worms, in fiſhing for others.

Of the MULLET.

THIS fiſh, at its utmoſt growth, is ſomething more than four feet in length: it has a ſharp ſnout, and a flat head, and in ſhape bears a conſiderable reſemblance to the dace. The mullet does not prey upon other fiſh, and is ſaid to live principally on mud and weeds. This fiſh bites very boldly, and is to be taken with thoſe flies at which the trout is apt to bite. As they make great reſiſtance, the tackle with which they are fiſhed for muſt be ſtrong; and within two feet of the bottom, they will take the marſh-worm, or the lob-worm.

The river Arundel, in Suſſex, and the Exe, in Devonſhire, are famous for theſe fiſh; but they go no farther up a river than the ſalt-water tide; however, they come, and return, with the tide, into moſt of the rivers in the ſouth of England. They will continue whole days in the Merſey, and in hot weather, for ſeveral days together. They frequent large ſand-banks, in ſhallow water, in great numbers, and as the fiſhermen are drawing for them, in the Merſey, will leap above two feet high, and ſpring over the net, from one ſand-hole to another.

The ſpawn of the mullet being pickled by the Italians, receives the name of botargo, and is deemed a fine reliſh, with a glaſs of wine, and good to provoke the appetite.

Of

Of the BASS.

THE ſhape of this fiſh is very ſimilar to that of a ſalmon: the belly of it is of a ſilver colour, and the back blue, approaching to dirt-colour. The ſcales are very thick, of a moderate ſize, and ſtick very cloſe together. It has a large mouth, filled with ſmall teeth, and has two triangular bones in the throat, and one in the palate. The eyes are large, and ſilver coloured, with dark, cloudy ſpots, but there is a circle of yellow next the pupil. The young fiſh have black ſpots on the back and ſides; but theſe diſappear as they encreaſe in ſize.

Fifteen pounds weight is deemed a very large fiſh; but they are ſo uncommonly voracious, that they have been ſometimes known to grow to the length of above four feet. They live either in ponds, rivers, or the ſea. Thoſe of the ſea are accounted the beſt, and next to them thoſe that are found in the mouths of conſiderable rivers. They have been ſometimes catched by perſons who have been angling for mullet, but the uſual mode of catching them is with nets. The fleſh of this fiſh is very wholeſome, and the taſte deemed highly palatable.

Of the SALMON.

THE body of this fiſh is rather long, its head ſmall, its tail forked, its ſnout ſharp, and it is covered with thin ſmall ſcales. Moſt part of the body is white, beautifully intermixed with ſpots of a black and red caſt; but it is of a blueiſh colour on the back. The noſe of the female is longer, and not

not ſo ſtrait as that of the male: the ſcales likewiſe are leſs bright, and the body is variegated with ſpots of a dark brown. As the ſpawn encreaſes, the belly becomes more flat, the taſte is leſs agreeable, and the fleſh leſs red, and drier. On the whole, however, the ſalmon is a beautiful fiſh, and in general eſteem.

They are catched in great numbers in the river Merſey, in Cheſhire, and bear different names according to their ages. In the firſt year, they are called *ſmelts*; in the ſecond, *ſprods*; in the third, *morts*; in the fourth, *fork-tails*; in the fifth, *half-fiſh*; and in the ſixth, *ſalmons*. In May, or June, the ſmelts weigh about two ounces, and then leave the Merſey, to which they return in Auguſt and September, and will then weigh a pound and a half, and often more, ſo that their growth is very quick. The full weight of ſalmon is from thirty-ſix to fifty-four pounds.

The male fiſh has an excreſcence growing from the lower jaw, about two inches in length, and reſembling the beak of a hawk. This is intended by nature to annoy ſuch fiſh as would devour the ſpawn, and it falls off when the ſalmon returns to the ſea. This fiſh has quadruple fins, with a broad cover, full of red ſpots; but its teeth are very ſmall, in proportion to the ſize of the body.

When the ſalmon is in perfection, its fleſh is red, and flakey, and the taſte of it remarkably ſweet and luſcious; ſo that it is a food with which the eaters are ſoon ſatisfied. It is the better for being kept ſome days; ſo that the ſalmon eaten in London is preferable to that dreſſed immediately on being catched. It loſes its colour at the approach of ſpawning time. Some are out of ſeaſon ſoon after Midſummer, when their colours decay, and they loſe their beautiful ſpots. When quite out of ſeaſon, they

they are called kippers, and have very little of the appearance of the ſame kind of fiſh.

In ſpawning time, the female retires to ſome gravelly bottom, where ſhe works till ſhe has made a ſort of neſt, nearly of her own ſize, in which ſhe leaves her ſpawn. Then the male comes, and covering the ſpawn with his belly, ejects a whitiſh fluid; and then both of them join to cover the brood with gravel, which they rout up with their noſes. This being done, they retire to deep water, and in about twenty days recover their ſtrength. Theſe fiſh reſide in the river about ſix months in the year, and it is remarkable of them, that they are fond of returning to the ſame rivers where they were ſpawned; which has been proved by fiſhermen putting ribband, tape, &c. into the tail fin, and afterwards catching the ſame fiſh, on the ſame ſpot: by this likewiſe the quickneſs of their growth has been aſcertained.

The principal rivers in England, which produce this fiſh, are the Thames, Trent, Merſey, Medway, Dee, Exe, Tyne, Severn, &c. but they are ſooneſt in ſeaſon in the north, from whence the London market is ſupplied.

The moſt remarkable circumſtance reſpecting this fiſh, is its leaping over thoſe obſtacles which oppoſe its paſſage to or from the ſea. The height to which they will leap is aſtoniſhing, and after having made ſeveral attempts to obtain their point, they are often catched in baſkets placed below. On the river Tivy, in Pembrokeſhire, is a cataract, called the ſalmon leap, where ſpectators wonder at the ſtrength and agility they uſe, in getting out of the ſea into the river. At Old Aberdeen, in Scotland, and at the river Wear, in Durham, are other ſalmon-leaps: but this laſt is deemed the beſt we have in England.

When

When the paſſage of theſe fiſh to the ſea is abſolutely prevented, they pine away, and will die in the ſecond year.

It may now be proper to give an account of the method of taking the ſalmon with an angle. He generally bites beſt about three in the afternoon, in May, June, and July; particularly if there be a breeze of wind, and clear water; and if the wind and ſtream ſet in a contrary direction, your ſucceſs is ſtill more probable. The common baits are dace, gudgeons, bleaks, minnows, lob-worms, or two dew-worms, well ſcoured; but the bait muſt be frequently changed, as the fiſh is very apt to change his taſte. He is particularly fond of the horſe-leech-fly, of which there are ſeveral colours, which have large bodies and heads, and long tails; and ſome of them have two, and others three pair of wings behind each other. Whip the body about with gold and ſilver twiſt, behind each pair of wings, and fiſh at length with the fly, in the ſame manner as for trout or grayling. When you dib for this fiſh, do it with two or three butterflies, of various colours, or other flies, the moſt gaudy that can be procured.

In fly-fiſhing for the ſalmon, chuſe a large and ſtrong hook: but in fiſhing at the bottom, two well-ſcoured lob-worms have been found to produce excellent ſport. When you practiſe this method, you ſhould have a large hook, armed with gimp, or you may be in danger of loſing your prize, for though, when ſtruck, he ſcarce ever attempts to bite the line, yet it muſt rake againſt his teeth, becauſe you are neceſſitated to play him for ſome time. The briſtles of a Weſtphalia hog, doubled, are recommended next to gimp; but you may uſe the briſtles of an Engliſh hog, as the others are only preferred on account of their length.

When

When you ſee a ſalmon leap out of the water, you may be certain there is a deep hole near the ſpot. If, in this caſe, you are hindered by a contrary wind from throwing your fly, or if the river be too broad, place your ledger-bait as near to the hole as poſſible, and you will hardly fail of ſucceeding, for the fiſh conſtantly retires to ſuch a place. You muſt uſe your ſwivel and reel, with a large cork-float, and your living bait about mid-water, provided you fiſh with a gudgeon, dace, &c.

For the ſalmon-ſmelt, ſcegger, or ſalmon-fry, your beſt baits are gentles, brandlings, black and dun gnats, earth-bobs, ant-flies, ſmall hackles of all colours, and dubb'd flies, which ſuit the ſeaſon. Theſe fiſh uſually aſſemble in ſhoals, and ten or a dozen will riſe at once at the fly, a little before they leave the river: three or four hooks, tied each to a ſingle hair, are often uſed to one line. Theſe fiſh are commonly found amongſt woods, or weeds, or in the ſcours near the deeps.

The ſalmon fiſhery begins about New-year's-day, and ends near the middle of Auguſt; and the principal European fiſheries are on the coaſts of Great-Britain and Ireland. The chief places are where rivers empty themſelves into the ſea, as they croud thither for freſh water. It is not uncommon for ſalmon to be darted, as they attempt to get over the weirs. In the neighbourhood of Flixon, in Lancaſhire, they ſet fire to ſtraw, or light torches, which being miſtaken for day-light, the fiſh approach it, and are either ſtruck by a ſpear, or catched by a ſudden jerk of nets, which have been previouſly placed near the ſpot where the fires are lighted. The ſpawn of ſalmon is good bait for chub, and even for trouts, in ſome rivers, particularly in winter and ſpring, where ſalmon have been uſed to ſpawn.

Some

Some perſons uſe it raw; others ſalt it, and hang it in a linen bag till it grows hard, and ſteep it all night in ſpirituous liquors before uſing it; and others, again, boil it till it is hard enough to ſtick on the hook.

Of the BLEAK.

THIS fiſh has large eyes, the lower part of the iris being ſpotted with red. The inſide of his mouth greatly reſembles that of a carp: he is flatter and thinner than the chub, and his head is leſs in proportion. The body is covered with thin ſcales, of a ſilver colour, which are eaſily rubbed off. He ſeldom grows to ſix inches in length. The bleak ſpawns in March, but recovers its ſtrength in about three weeks, and is in the higheſt perfection in autumn. The ſmallneſs of this fiſh prevents its being a conſiderable object of the angler's attention; yet the taſte is agreeable, and the food nouriſhing. They abound in many of the rivers of England.

It is very pleaſant fiſhing for them in the following manner. Procure a hazle rod, of five or ſix feet in length, and a line twice as long; and bait your hook with a ſmall gentle. Thus provided, procure a boat, or fiſh from the bank of a river, in a rapid ſtream, on a ſummer evening. This diverſion is called whipping for bleak. In the cold months, the moſt proper bait are ſmall red-worms, or gentles; but in ſummer, they may be taken with a ſmall gnat, or an artificial ant-fly.

The bleak is almoſt conſtantly in motion, and continually changing his ſituation; ſo that the moſt approved method of angling for him is with a paternoſter

noſter line, which conſiſts of ſix or eight very ſmall hooks, tied along a line, at five or ſix inches diſtance from each other. The bleak bites freely, and ſcarce ever refuſes the bait.

Of the SALMON TROUT.

THIS fiſh likewiſe bears the name of the Bull-trout, and of the Salmon-peale, or Scurf. Its body is beautified with many ſpots: its head is ſhorter and thicker than the grey, and it has not a forked tail, as the ſalmon has. They abound in Devonſhire, Dorſetſhire, and Yorkſhire, and come into the rivers about the beginning of May. Thoſe taken in Yorkſhire are of a ſtrong taſte, nor is the fleſh of them red, like the ſalmon. The general length of this fiſh, at its full growth, is from ſixteen to twenty inches; but it is ſaid they have been catched of the weight of almoſt twenty pounds, near Warrington in Lancaſhire.

The moſt proper bait for this fiſh is a brandling, well ſcoured, of the kind that breeds in a tanner's yard; but they will riſe at an artificial fly, in the ſame manner that a ſalmon does. They bite freely, and make great reſiſtance before they are killed. They are in ſeaſon all the ſummer, and the proper times for angling for them are from five in the afternoon till night, and during the whole of the morning. Their places of reſort are deep holes, uſually under the roots of trees. They lie watching for their prey on that ſide of the hole next the ſtream, that they may the more eaſily catch what is brought down by it. Some perſons have called

the young ſalmon by the name of ſalmon-trout; but it is evident that this is a fiſh of a different kind.

Of the SMELT.

THIS fiſh is remarkable for its delicacy, and ſeldom exceeds ſix inches in length, though they are ſometimes found much longer, particularly near Warrington, where they have been found of double the length. Its ſhape reſembles that of a trout. The body is covered with ſcales, which will drop with the ſlighteſt touch. The belly and ſides ſhine like ſilver, the back is duſky, and very ſmall black ſpots may be obſerved on the head and back. The jaws are filled with teeth, and there are two in the tongue. The eyes are of the colour of ſilver, and the brain may be obſerved through the ſkull.

Smelts bear a very high price, as they are a favourite food, and are often ſold in London at five or ſix ſhillings the hundred. They come into the Thames in the months of March and Auguſt; in the firſt of which they go up as high as Mortlake, but ſeldom get farther than Blackwall in the latter month. The ſmelt does not breed in ponds, though ſome of them have been ſometimes found in thoſe ſtill waters where fiſhermen have waſhed the ſpawn from their nets.

If the ſpring be mild, ſuch immenſe numbers of them aſſemble in the river Merſey, as to make the water appear of a greeniſh colour. All the boats and fiſhermen are employed to take them: and even boys catch them with cabbage-nets.

In

In angling for this fiſh, the baits are a ſmall part of the fiſh itſelf, ſome well-ſcoured gentles, earth-bobs, or a paſte: but they are not very frequently catched by angling. Writers on this ſubject ſay that this fiſh ſmells like a violet: but that the vulgar opinion affirms it to ſmell like a cucumber. In this particular we muſt prefer the vulgar opinion; for ſurely nothing ſo much reſembles the ſmell of a cucumber, as that of a ſmelt.

OF

FLY-FISHING.

THE art of making a fly is ſo neceſſary to the fiſhing with ſucceſs, that (as Sir John Hawkins obſerves) "he hardly deſerves the name of an angler who cannot do it." Though in fact, very good flies may be got at the fiſhing-tackle ſhops, provided proper directions be given for the making them.

As the foundation of fly-fiſhing, it may not be improper to give the liſt of flies for each month in the year, according to the directions of CHARLES COTTON, Eſq; firſt publiſhed in the year 1676, together with ſuch variations as have been made by later proficients, and publiſhed by later writers on this ſubject. Mr. Cotton confeſſes that few perſons beſide himſelf begin fly-fiſhing in the month of January; yet even in this month he has been ſucceſsful in taking grayling. There are but few days in the month fit for the ſport, and only an hour or two in the day, during a warm ſun.

JANUARY.

There are no alterations made in Cotton's directions for this month, which we therefore give nearly in his own words:

1. A RED-BROWN, with wings of the male of a mallard almoſt white: the dubbing of the tail of a black long-coated cur, ſuch as they commonly make muffs of; for the hair on the tail of ſuch a dog dyes, and turns to a red-brown; but the hair of a ſmooth-coated dog of the ſame colour will not do, becauſe it will not dye, but retains its natural colour.

2. The little BRIGHT DUN GNAT. This muſt be fiſhed with having only one hair next the hook. It is made of a mixt dubbing of Martin's fur, and the white of a hare's ſcut, with a very white and ſmall wing; and it is no matter how fine you fiſh, for nothing in this month will riſe but a grayling, and of them I never, in this ſeaſon, ſaw any taken with a fly of above a foot long: but of little ones, about the ſize of a ſmelt, you may take enough with the two flies above-mentioned.

FEBRUARY.

1. The LITTLE RED BROWN. The dubbing of this muſt be ſomewhat blacker than that of laſt month, and warpt on with red ſilk.

2. A PLAIN HACKLE, or PALMER-FLY; to be made of black oſtrich herl warped, or tied down to the dubbing with red ſilk, and the hackle of a red cock over the whole.

3. The LESSER HACKLE; which is made with a black body, a ſilver twiſt over it, and a red feather.

4. The GREAT HACKLE. The body of this muſt be black, and wrapped with a red feather of a capon untrimmed. We ſometimes barb the hackle-feather all over; ſometimes barb it only a little; and ſometimes leave the whole length of the feather on the top, or back of the fly, which makes it ſwim better, and by which large fiſh are killed.

5. Gold Twist Hackle. Ribbed with gold-twiſt, the body black, and a red feather over the whole. Theſe hackles are taken from nine to eleven in the morning, and from one to three in the afternoon. The do great execution, and ſuit all waters, and any month in the year.

6. The Great Dun. This is made with bear's hair of a dun colour, and thoſe wings of the grey feather of a mallard near his tail. This is deemed the beſt fly for this month, and is productive of great ſport to the angler.

7. The Great Blue Dun. The wings of the dark grey feather of a mallard: the dubbing of the bottom of bear's hair next to the roots, mixed with a ſmall quantity of blue camblet.

8. The Dark Brown. The wings of a grey drake's feather, and the dubbing of the brown hair from the flank of a brended cow.

In the uſe of the above hackles, the angler will recollect that ſome of them ſuit one water, and ſome another; and likewiſe pay a proper attention to the ſky; for their ſize and colour is to be altered accordingly. In clear water a ſmall hackle is beſt, and in deep-coloured water a larger.

MARCH.

The ſame flies are to be uſed in this month as in the preceding; excluſive of which we have,

1. The Little Whirling Dun, which is made of the bottom of a ſquirrel's tail, and the wing of the grey feather of a drake.

2. The Bright Brown, made either of the down of a ſpaniel, or that of a cow's flank; with a grey wing.

3. The Whitish Dun. The wings of this are made of the grey feather of the mallard, and the body of the roots of camel's hair.

4. The

4. The THORN-TREE-FLY; made of a perfect black, intermixed with eight or ten hairs of *Iſabella-coloured mohair. The body very ſmall, and the wings of a bright mallard's feather. This fly is famous for its execution.

5. The BLUE DUN. The dubbing for this fly conſiſts of the fine blue hair combed from the neck of a black greyhound. The wings ſhould be very white, and from the tenth to the twenty-fourth of the month he is moſt certainly taken.

6. The little BLACK-GNAT: the dubbing either of the fur of a black water-dog, or the down of a young black water-coot: the wings made of the male of a mallard, as white as can be procured: the body very ſmall, and the wings not to extend beyond it.

7. After the middle of this month uſe the BRIGHT BROWN, which continues in uſe till about the tenth of April. The dubbing for it is to be had out of a ſkinner's lime-pits, of the hair of an abortive calf, which will be turned to gold-colour by the ſtrength of the lime. The feather of a brown hen is beſt for the wings.

APRIL.

The hackles and flies taken in March are the ſame as thoſe in this month; but the browns muſt be kept

* Sir John Hawkins, in his notes on Walton's and Cotton's angling, has this remark on the Iſabella-coloured mohair. "The "Archduke Albertus, who had married the Infanta Iſabella, "daughter of Philip the Second, King of Spain, with whom he had "the Low Countries in dowry, in the year 1602, having deter- "mined to lay ſiege to Oſtend, then in the poſſeſſion of the heretics, "his pious Princeſs, who attended him in that expedition, made "a vow, that till it was taken ſhe would never change her "cloaths. Contrary to expectation, as the ſtory ſays, it was "three years before the place was reduced, in which time her "Highneſs's linen had acquired the above-mentioned hue."

N. B. This colour is whitiſh yellow, or buff-colour a little ſoiled.

with

with red ſilk, and the duns with yellow. In this month are likewiſe taken

1. The SMALL BRIGHT BROWN; which is made of ſpaniel's fur, with a light grey wing. This is taken in clear water, on a bright day.

2. The DARK-BROWN; the dubbing of the ſame colour, intermixed with violet-coloured camblet. The wing of the grey feather of a mallard.

3. From the ſixth to the tenth of this month uſe the VIOLET FLY, which is made of a dark violet ſtuff, with the wings of the dark feather of a mallard.

4. The WHIRLING-DUN. This is made of the down of a fox cub, and ribbed about with yellow ſilk: the wings of the pale grey feather of a mallard. This fly is uſually taken at noon, from the twelfth of the month to the end of it, and occaſionally to the end of June.

5. The YELLOW-DUN. Dub with a ſmall quantity of pale yellow crewel, mixed with fox-cub down from the tail, and warp with yellow: the wing of a paliſh ſtarling's feather. This fly is taken from eight to eleven in the morning, and from two to four in the afternoon. It is a good fly for April and May.

6. The HORSE-FLESH-FLY. The dubbing of this is a blue mohair, with a pink-coloured and red tammy mixed; the wing light-coloured, and the head dark-brown. This fly is taken through the month, and kills beſt from two hours before ſunſet till night.

M A Y.

This month and the following are more favourable to the fly-angler than all others in the year; wherefore we ſhall be very particular in deſcribing the flies proper to be uſed; and firſt ſpeak of thoſe kinds that are leaſt in eſteem.

1. The

1. The TURKEY-FLY. The dubbing ravelled out of ſome blue ſtuff, and lapped about with yellow ſilk: the wings of the feather of a grey mallard.

2. The GREAT HACKLE, or Palmer-Fly; the body yellow, ribbed with gold twiſt; the wings of a mallard's feather dyed yellow, with a red capon's hackle over the whole.

3. The BLACK-FLY. The wings of a grey mallard's feather, and the dubbing of the fur of a black ſpaniel.

4. The LIGHT-BROWN with a ſlender body; the dubbing twirled upon ſmall red ſilk, and raiſed with the point of a needle, that the ribs or rows of ſilk may appear through: the grey feather of a mallard forms the wings.

5. The LITTLE-DUN. The dubbing of a bear's dun hair whirled upon yellow ſilk; the wings of the grey feather of a mallard.

6. The WHITE GNAT. This is compoſed of a black head, and a pale wing.

7. The PEACOCK-FLY; the body of the whirl of a peacock's feather, with a red head, and the wings of the feather of a mallard.

8. The COW-LADY, a ſmall fly: the wings of a red feather, or ſtripes of the red hackle of a cock; the body of a peacock's feather.

9. The COW-DUNG FLY: the dubbing a mixture of light-brown and yellow, and the wing the dark-grey feather of a mallard.

It is to be remarked that all the hackles and flies taken in April will be taken this month; only the flies muſt be ſmaller, and the hackles brighter.

We will now proceed to thoſe flies which are moſt in eſteem this month; viz.

1. The DUN-CUT. Dub with bear's-cub fur, and a little yellow and green crewel; warp with yellow or green; a large dun wing, and two horns at the

the head, made of the hair of a ſquirrel. This fly almoſt certainly kills.

2. The ARTIFICIAL GREEN DRAKE. This comes in about, or ſoon after the twentieth of the month, and is taken at all hours till near the end of June in ſtony rivers. Obſerve the following directions to make it. On a large hook dub with camel's hair, bright bear's hair, the ſoft down that is combed from a hog's briſtles, and yellow camblet well intermixed; the body long, and ribbed about with green ſilk, or rather yellow ſilk waxed with green wax: the wiſks of the tail of the long hair of ſables, or fitchet; and the wings of the white-grey feather of a mallard dyed yellow.

3. The ARTIFICIAL STONE FLY. Make it of bear's dun hair, with a little brown and yellow camblet well mixed, but diſpoſed in ſuch a manner, that on the belly, and towards the tail underneath, the fly may be more yellow than on any other part. Place two or three hairs of a black cat's beard on the top of the hook, in the arming, ſo as to be turned up when you warp on your dubbing, and to ſtand almoſt upright. Rib your fly with yellow ſilk; make the wings long and large, of the dark-grey feather of a mallard.

4. The BLACK-FLY. The body black, the whirl of an oſtrich feather, ribbed with ſilver twiſt, and the black hackle of a cock over all: this fly will kill, but is not to be mentioned with the two preceding.

5. The LITTLE YELLOW MAY-FLY. The ſhape of this is preciſely the ſame as the green-drake, and of a remarkably bright yellow, which is made of a bright yellow camblet, and the wings of a white grey feather dyed yellow.

6. The CAMBLET FLY. This is ſhaped like a moth, and its wings are finely diapered or watered.

The

The artificial fly is made with dark brown ſhining camblet, ribbed over with a very ſmall light green ſilk; the wings of the double grey feather of a mallard. It is a killing fly for ſmall fiſh, and likewiſe for graylings.

JUNE.

The green-drake and ſtone-fly are taken till about the twenty-fourth of this month: and the flies proper to the month are

1. The OWL-FLY, which is taken from the twelfth to the twenty-fourth of the month, late at night. Dub with the white of a weaſel's tail, and let the wing be white grey.

2. The BARM-FLY. Dub with the fur of a yellow dun cat, and the grey wings of a wild mallard's feather.

3. The PURPLE-HACKLE, made with a purple body, whipt about with a red capon's feather.

4. The GOLD-TWIST-HACKLE with a purple body, whipt about with a red capon's feather.

5. The FLESH-FLY. For dubbing make uſe of a black ſpaniel's fur, and blue wool mixed; and let the wing be grey.

6. The LITTLE FLESH-FLY. Make the body of the whirl of a peacock's feather, and the wings of the grey feather of a drake.

7. The PEACOCK-FLY. The body and wing both made of the feather of the peacock.

8. The ANT-FLY. Dub with brown and red camblets mixed, and let the wing be light grey.

9. The BROWN-GNAT. Make the body very ſlender, with brown and violet camblet, well mixed, and the wing a whitiſh grey.

10. The LITTLE BLACK GNAT. The dubbing black mohair, and the wing a lightiſh grey.

11. The

11. The GREEN GRASSHOPPER. The dubbing of a mixture of green and yellow wool, ribbed over with green ſilk, and over the whole a red capon's feather.

12. The LITTLE DUN GRASSHOPPER. The body made of a dun camblet, and very ſlender, with a dun hackle at the top.

JULY.

During this month all the ſmall flies that are taken in June will be taken; and likewiſe the following:

1. The ORANGE-FLY. Dub with orange-coloured wool, and make the wings of the feather from a blackbird's wing.

2. The LITTLE WHITE DUN. The body ſhould be made of white mohair, and the wings of the blue feather of the heron.

3. The WASP-FLY. Make this either of a dark-brown dubbing, or elſe the fur of a black cat's tail, ribbed about with yellow ſilk; and the wings of the grey feather of a mallard.

4. The BLACK HACKLE. The body muſt be made of the whirl of a peacock's feather, and a black hackle feather on the top. There is likewiſe another, without wings, made of a peacock's whirl.

5. The SHELL-FLY. The dubbing of this fly muſt be made of yellow green Jerſey wool, and a little white hog's hair mixed.

6. The BLACK-BLUE-DUN. The wings muſt be made of the feather of a blue pidgeon's wing. The dubbing is the fur of a black rabbit mixed with a little yellow.

AUGUST.

In this month are taken the ſame flies as in July; likewiſe

1. A ſecond kind of ANT-FLY; the dubbing of the darkeſt brown hair of a cow, approaching to black, with a dark wing, and ſome red warp'd in for the tag of his tail. This fly is almoſt certain to kill.

2. The FERN-FLY; the dubbing of the fur of a hare's neck, which reſembles fern in colour, with a darkiſh grey feather of a mallard's wing. This fly is alſo a good killer.

3. The WHITE-HACKLE; the body compoſed of white mohair, and warp'd about with a white hackle feather.

4. A HARRY-LONG-LEGS. Made of lightiſh bear's hair, and a dunniſh hackle; add a few hairs of light blue mohair, and a little fox-cub down; warp with light grey or pale blue ſilk, and make the head large. This fly is commonly taken in a cloudy, windy day. All the ſame browns and duns that are taken in the month of May, are likewiſe taken in this month.

SEPTEMBER.

1. The CAMEL BROWN; the dubbing pulled out of the lime of a wall, whipped about with red ſilk, and the wing made of a darkiſh-grey mallard's feather.

2. A Fly to which no name is given, but thus made; the black hair of a badger's ſkin, mixed with the yellow ſofteſt down of a ſanded hog

Excluſive of the two above-mentioned, all the ſame flies are taken in September as in April.

OCTOBER.

The flies which ſerve for the month of March, are likewiſe proper for that of October.

NOVEMBER.

The flies proper for November are the ſame as thoſe which are taken in February.

DECEMBER.

It is not a very frequent cuſtom to angle with a fly either in this month or in January; but when the weather is very mild, it is ſometimes done. In this caſe, a brown, that looks red in the hand, and yellowiſh betwixt your eye and the ſun, will both raiſe and kill in a clear water, which is free from ſnow-broth.

It may be proper to remark, that among all the flies above-mentioned, none are ſo proper to kill a number, even of the largeſt fiſh, as the *drake* and *ſtone-fly*.

An ingenious writer on this ſubject ſays, "The "reader may depend on this liſt of flies, and reſt aſ- "ſured, that with ſome or other of this liſt of "flies, eſpecially with the palmers or hackles, the "great dun, dark brown, early and late bright "brown, the black gnat, yellow dun, great whirl- "ing dun, dun cut, green, and grey drake, cam- "blet fly, cow-dung fly, little ant-fly, badger-fly, "and fern-fly, he ſhall catch trout, grayling, chub, "and dace, in any water in England or Wales; "always remembering that in a ſtrange water, he "firſt tries the plain, gold, ſilver, and peacock "hackle."

After the above liſt of COTTON'S FLIES, to which we have made ſome few neceſſary alterations, it may be proper to give the following CATALOGUE OF FLIES, as it is ſeparated into three diviſions, under the titles of

MODERN

MODERN CATALOGUE OF FLIES.

NUMBER I.

FEBRUARY.

1. PEACOCK-HACKLE. Peacock's herl alone, or interchanged with oſtrich herl, warping red ſilk, red cock's hackle over all: it may be varied by a black cock's hackle and ſilver twiſt. Taken chiefly from nine to eleven in the morning, and from one to three in the afternoon. This and the ſeveral other hackles, deſcribed in the courſe of this work, being very tempting baits, ſhould always be firſt tried when the angler comes to a ſtrange river; and not changed till he has found out, and is certain, what particular fly is upon the water.

2. RED-FLY; is made of a drake's feather, and the body of a red hackle, and the red part of a ſquirrel's fur. He has four wings, which lie flat on his back.

MARCH.

1. ASH-COLOURED DUN. Dub with the roots of a fox-cub's tail: warp with pale yellow ſilk: wing of the pale part of a ſtarling's feather. This fly, which is alſo called the Violet Dun, and Blue Dun, is to be found on almoſt every river: it varies much in its colour, according to the ſeaſon of the year. In March and September it is called, and that very properly, the Violet Dun, for it has often that hue: and therefore it is uſual to mix the blue violet crewel

with the fox-cub down. In April it aſſumes a pale aſh-colour, and in May is of a beautiful lemon-colour, both body and wings. In June and July it is blue-black, and from July it inſenſibly varies till it becomes of its primitive colour, violet-dun, which it never fails to do by September.

2. GREEN PEACOCK HACKLE. Greeniſh herl of a peacock: warping green ſilk, a black hackle over all. Taken from eight to eleven in the morning.

3. DARK BROWN. Dub with the hair of a dark brown ſpaniel or calf, that looks ruddy by being expoſed to wind and weather: warp with ruddy or chocolate-coloured ſilk. The wing of the darkiſh part of a ſtarling's quill-feather. Taken chiefly from nine to eleven in the morning. The ſame fly is taken in September.

APRIL.

1. BLUE-DUN. Dub with the fur of a water-rat, and warp with aſh-colour: the wing of a coot's feather. Morning and afternoon.

2. PEARL-COLOUR, or HERON-DUN. Dub with the yellowiſh or aſh-coloured herl of a heron; warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wing from the ſhort feather of a heron, or from a coot's wing, of an aſh-colour.

3. SPIDER-FLY, comes about the middle of April, if the ſpring be favourable. The wings are made of a woodcock's feather, that lies under the but-end of the wing; the body of lead-coloured ſilk, with a black cock's hackle wrapped twice or thrice round. The ſhape of the body the ſame as that of the ant-fly. In bright and warm days this fly appears, and comes out of beds of gravel by the water ſide, where, in ſuch weather as above-mentioned, they may be found in cluſters from the middle to the latter end of the month.

4. Cow-

4. Cow-dung-Fly, comes on about the middle of March, and continues till the latter end of April; but it is not to be fiſhed with unleſs it be a cold windy day. The wings ſhould be made of the blue feather of a hen tipped with yellow; to lie flat: make the body of a lemon-coloured mohair, with a yellow feather about it. The whole ſhould look like the large horſe ant-fly.

M A Y.

1. The Oak-Fly. Some call this the Aſh-Fly, and others the Cannon-Fly. The head, which is large, of an aſh-colour; the upper part of the body greyiſh, with two or three hairs of bright-brown mixt, and a very little blue, and ſometimes a hair or two of light green: the tail-part is greyiſh mixt with orange: the wing of a mottled brown feather of a woodcock, partridge, or brown hen; the hook No. 8 or 9. This is the fly which is ſeen ſo frequently in April, May, and June, on the body of the aſh, oak, willow, or thorns, growing near the water, ſtanding with its head downwards: it is an excellent fly, but difficult to imitate, being of many colours, unequally mixed. It takes chiefly in the morning; it does not ſeem to come from any cadis; for it never drops in great numbers on the water; and the wings are ſhort, and lie flat on the back, like the blue-bottle, or large fleſh-fly.

2. The Orange-Tawney, Orange-Brown, Camblet-Fly, Alder-Fly, Withy-Fly, or Baſtard Cadis. Dub with dark-brown ſpaniel's hair, or calf's hair that ſhines, or barge-ſail; warp with deep orange; black hackle under the wing. The wing of a darkiſh feather of a mallard or ſtarling. Chiefly taken of a morning before the green-drake comes upon the water.

3. SILVER-TWIST-HACKLE. Dub with the herl of an oſtrich feather; warp with dark green, ſilver-twiſt, and black cock's hackle over all. Taken from nine till eleven, particularly on a ſhowery day.

4. LIGHT-FLAMING, or Spring-Brown. Dub with light brown of a calf; warp with orange colour; wing of a pale grey mallard's feather. This is a good fly, and taken chiefly before ſun-ſet in a warm evening.

5. SOOTY-DUN. Dub with black ſpaniel's fur, or the herl of an oſtrich; warp with green; wing, the dark part of a land-rail or coot. Taken beſt in a ſhowery day, and likewiſe in the months of April and June.

6. The YELLOW MILLER, or Owl-Fly. The body of a yellow marten's fur, or oſtrich herl dyed buff-colour: wing of the ruddy feather of a young peacock's wing, or pale brown chicken. Taken from two till four in the morning, and from ſun-ſet till ten at night.

7. DEATH-DRAKE. The body one herl of black oſtrich, and two of peacock; ſilver-twiſt, black hackle: wing of the dark feather of a mallard, of a copper colour. Taken chiefly in an evening, when the may-fly is almoſt gone.

8. HUZZARD. Dub with pale lemon-coloured mohair, or oſtrich feather dyed yellow: warp with yellow; gold-twiſt and yellow hackle over all. Wing of a very pale mallard's feather dyed of a lemon-colour, the wings large, and longer than the body, lying flat on the back. Taken in a bluſtering day, before the may-fly comes in. This fly is little known, but the moſt beautiful of the inſect ſpecies that frequent the water. It is larger than the green-drake, of a beautiful lemon-colour, both body and wings, which are four in number, and lie cloſe to its

its back. It is to be met with but in few rivers, and is deemed a great curioſity; and in thoſe rivers that produce them, they appear in great numbers about the latter end of April; at which time, and afterwards, the trouts riſe at them very eagerly: doubtleſs this is a true water-fly: it is ſuppoſed to be produced from very large cadis.

JUNE.

1. CADIS-FLY, which proceeds from the cod-bait, begins with June, and is a large fly, having four wings of a pale yellow, and likewiſe a body of pale yellow, ribbed with dark brown. The wings are made of a yellow hen's feather: the body of a buff-coloured yellow fur, ribbed with dark brown ſilk, and a yellow hackle three times round. Theſe flies are not all gone till the end of the firſt week in July; and are to be fiſhed with at the clearing of the water, after it has been diſcoloured, when no other fly will do ſo well. While in the ſtate of a grub, it is an admirable bait for fiſhing at the bottom.

2. SKY-COLOURED-BLUE-FLY, begins and ends with the month of June. It appears only in the evening of a very hot day. It is made of the feather of a light blue hen, with a yellowiſh gloſs: the body is made of a light blue fur, mixed with a bright yellow, with a ſilver grizzled hackle over it. It may be uſed till the middle of July.

3. ORLE-FLY, comes down the beginning, and continues till the end of June, and is the beſt fly to fiſh with after the may-flies are gone. The wings of this fly are made of a dark-grizzled cock's hackle; the body of a peacock's herl, with very dark red ſilk. It has four wings, which ſhould lie flat on the back as it ſwims down the water. This fly is to be fiſhed with in the warmeſt weather; and may be ſucceſsfully

fully uſed from ten in the morning till four in the afternoon, at which time the fiſh decline the orle-fly, and bite at the ſky-coloured blue above-mentioned.

JULY.

1. PISMIRE. The body, ſome few reeves of a cock pheaſant's tail feather, or ruddy barge-ſail, or brown carpet, or old bear's hair towards the roots, tanned with the weather: one peacock's herl may be twiſted with it: warp with ruddy ſilk: wing, the light part of a ſtarling's feather left longer than the body. This is a killing fly after an emmet-flight, but not before.

2. WILLOW-CRICKET, or ſmall Peacock Fly. A herl of green peacock's feather; warp with green ſilk: wing, of a ſtarling's feather longer than the body. A morning fly, eſpecially for grayling, in rapid rivers.

3. MIDDLING BROWN. Made of calf's hair twiſted upon pale yellow ſilk, for the ſilk to appear: wing, of a mallard's feather.

4. DARK-BROWN. Warp with red ſilk, with a deep orange tag at the tail: wing, of a mallard's feather.

AUGUST.

Through this month the Piſmire is uſed; as likewiſe all the other flies of the month of July.

SEPTEMBER.

LARGE FETID LIGHT BROWN. The body of light calf or cow's hair, or ſeal's fur dyed of the colour: warp with ruddy or orange-coloured ſilk: wing, of a ruddy brown chicken, large and long. This fly is much upon Hackney river, and is much ruddier there than elſewhere. A killing fly in the morning.

MODERN

MODERN.

CATALOGUE OF FLIES.

NUMBER II.

JANUARY.

1. DARK-BLUE HERL. The body, black rabbet's ſcut; black of a hare's ſcut: greeniſh peacock herl; warp with brown ſilk: wing, the light part of a fieldfare's feather.

2. BLACK HACKLE. Body, pale yellow ſilk, with a black cock's hackle turned about it.

3. DUN HACKLE. Body, dun-coloured ſilk, with a dun cock's hackle.

4. SPRING BLACK. Body, black wool of a ſheep's face, with or without a greeniſh peacock's herl: warp with brown ſilk: wing, the grey feather of a mallard.

5. SECOND SPRING BLACK. Body, the very blackeſt part of the darkeſt hare's ſcut you can procure, with or without a greeniſh peacock's herl: warp with aſh-coloured ſilk; wing, of a fieldfare's feather. This and the other ſpring-black are taken beſt in bright weather.

FEBRUARY.

The flies directed to be uſed in January, are likewiſe proper for uſe in this month.

MARCH.

In this month the ſame flies are uſed as in January and February, and likewiſe the following:

1. The

1. The TURKEY, or MARCH-FLY. Body, brown foal's hair; tops of the wings of a woodcock, ſome ruddy, others grey, well mixed together: warp with pink and yellow, or pink and light-coloured brown ſilk, twiſted together: wing, of the feather of a cock pheaſant. This is thought to be the cob-fly, ſo much celebrated in Wales.

2. The BROWN FLY, or Dun Drake. This fly begins to come down about the middle of March, and continues till the middle of April. It is made of the feather of a partridge or pheaſant; the body of a partridge's hackle, with the fur of a hare under it, ribbed with yellow ſilk. This fly is taken from eleven till two or three o'clock.

APRIL.

1. DUN. Body, dunneſt ſilmert, or marten's fur; Indian fox-dun; light dun fox-cub; coarſe hair of the ſtump of a ſquirrel's tail, of a brightiſh brown, or a yellowiſh caſt; warp with yellow ſilk; wing, of a light fieldfare's feather.

2. PALE, or SKY-BLUE WATCHET. It is a ſmall fly, and appears on the water on a cold day. The body, fur of a water-rat, black part of a hare's ſcut, the pale roots cut off; a very little brown bear's hair: warp with pale brown, or orange-coloured ſilk: wing, of a hen blackbird.

3. LIGHT BLUE. Body, light fox-cub fur; a little light foal's hair; a little ſquirrel's fur that is light coloured; all theſe well mixed together; warp with yellow ſilk: wing, of a light fieldfare's feather.

4. PLAIN HACKLE. Body, black oſtrich herl, with red or black cock's hackle over it; and in hot weather add gold twiſt.

5. RED HACKLE. Body, red ſilk and gold-twiſt, and a red cock's hackle till June. Afterwards uſe orange ſilk for the body. This is deemed an excellent

excellent fly; but it is to be obſerved that it is more properly the orange-fly. Its colour is like that of a Seville orange. Wings may be added, either of a hen or chicken, of an orange or ruddy caſt; or a dull dark wing, of the ſofteſt feather of a rook's wing. It has four wings, two next the body, of a very dark grey colour, and two ſerving as a caſe over them, ſometimes of a dirty blackiſh colour, and ſometimes of an orange colour.

6. YELLOW WATCHET. Body, water-rat's fur, the blackeſt part of a hare's ſcut; greeniſh yellow crewel for feet; warp with green ſilk: wing, the lighteſt part of a blackbird's feather.

7. BLACK CATERPILLAR FLY. This comes about the middle of April, and appears till the middle of May. Wings, of a jay's feather, one part blue, and the other part black: body, of a feather out of the top of a plover, with a dark hackle over it. The body of this fly is of a fine ſhag like velvet, which the plover's feather makes admirably well. To be fiſhed with in warm days, when it is alſo windy and cloudy; for then the flies grow weak for want of the ſun, and fall, in great numbers, on the water.

8. SAND-FLY. Body, dark brown foal's hair, a little blue ſquirrel's fur, and the whitiſh yellow of the ſame; warp with yellow ſilk: wing, the light part of a fieldfare's feather.

9. GREEN TAIL. Body, dark part of a hare's ſcut, and darkeſt blue fur of an old fox: light part of a ſquirrel's tail, and a hair or two of the coarſe browniſh part of it for feet; warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wing, of a hen pheaſant.

10. KNOTTED GREY GNAT. Body, darkeſt part of a hare's ſcut, dark brown foal's hair, dark fur of the black of an old fox; warp with grey ſilk: wing, the blue feather of a fieldfare.

MAY.

MAY.

The above flies may be uſed in this month; and likewiſe the following:

1. LITTLE IRON BLUE FLY. This begins and ends with May; and they come in great numbers in cold or ſtormy days. The wing of this fly is made of a cormorant's feather that lies under the wing, in the ſame form as thoſe of a gooſe: the body is made with the fur of a mole, or rather a water-rat's fur, ribbed with yellow ſilk, and a grizzle hackle wrapped twice or thrice round. The wings ſhould ſtand upright, with a little forked tail. This fly is eagerly taken by the grayling.

2. YELLOW SALLY FLY; appears from the middle of May to the beginning of June. The wings are made of a yellow cock's hackle: it has four wings which lie flat: the body is made with yellow dubbing, mixed with dark brown fur, and a yellow hackle round it.

3. The SHORN-FLY comes in the middle of May, and continues about a month, and is frequently found in the mowing of graſs: it has a huſky wing of a dark brown colour, with fine clear blue wings underneath. It is a very killing fly till the may-fly comes in, though hitherto but little noticed by anglers. The wings of this fly are made of a jay's feather, taken out of the wing, mixed with a little black and blue; and the body is made of a fleſh-coloured ſilk with a red hackle over it. When the water is in order, this fly is a certain killer.

4. BLUE HERL. Body, fox's fur, dark part of a hare's ſcut, greeniſh herl of a peacock, (if the weather is warm for the ſeaſon, otherwiſe little or none of the greeniſh herl;) warp with brown ſilk: wing, of a ſtarling's feather.

5. DUN.

5. DUN. Body, dunniſh blue fur of an old fox, mixed with pale yellow, the ends of the hairs of an old fox almoſt red; ſome coarſe hairs taken out of the tail, or bruſh; warp with yellow: wing, ſtarling's feather.

6. BLACK HERL. Body, black herl of an oſtrich, and ruddy herl of a peacock, twiſted together; warp with brown ſilk: wing, the light feather of a fieldfare.

7. PEACOCK HACKLE. Body, peacock's ruddy herl; red cock's hackle; warp with red ſilk.

8. PEWET, or LAPWING'S TOPPING. Body, peacock's herl, and that of a lapwing's crown feather, twiſted together; warp with red ſilk: wing, the red feather of a partridge's tail.

9. ORANGE BROWN. Body, orange-coloured wool, with bright brown bear's hair mixed; warp with orange ſilk: wing, of a ſtarling's feather.

10. LIGHT BLUE. Body, light fur of an old fox, mixed with yellow pale crewel; warp with pale yellow ſilk: wing, light feather of a jay.

11. RED HERL. Body, two herls of a peacock, twiſted together; warp with ruddy ſilk: wing, the red feather of a partridge's tail.

12. STONE GNAT. Body, the roots of the darkeſt part of a hare's ſcut, the top or ends being cut off; warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wing, a blackbird's feather.

JUNE.

Through this month the fiſh will take the following flies of the laſt month: viz. the black-herl, red-herl, dun, ſtone-gnat, light-blue, orange-brown, peacock-hackle, and pewet's topping. They will likewiſe take the following:

1. The WHITTERISH. Body, the root-end of the white part of a hare's ſcut; light-grey foal's hair,

or camel's hair, towards the tail, the dark part of a hare's ſcut with ſome brown hairs mixed: peacock's herl for the head; warp with white ſilk: wing, the feather of a ſea-mew.

2. LIGHT-GREY. Body, fur of the inner part of a rabbit's leg, the lighteſt of the dark part of a hare's ſcut: warp with aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, light grey mallard's feather.

3. BROWN NIGHT-FLY, is made of the brown feather of a hen, and the body of the ſame colour. This is properly a moth, which flies by night only; and is to be uſed in a dark gloomy night after a warm day. In this fiſhing uſe a line about a yard longer than the rod, and put a couple of maggots at the point of the hook, which will be of great advantage to the ſmelling part. It will take fiſh both in ſtreams and ſtanding waters, and you may hear riſe in as much perfection as if you were fiſhing by day. They will continue to bite till day-break, if the night be gloomy and cloudy; but if it be a moon-ſhining or ſtar-light night, they will not ſtir at theſe flies, any more than they will at the day-flies in a bright day.

4. WHITE NIGHT-FLY. This fly is, in my opinion, preferable to the former. It is made of the white owl's feather, on account of the ſoftneſs of it, upon a middle-ſized worm-hook; the body of the ſame colour as the wings, and as big as a very large wheat-ſtraw. It is in perfection about the latter end of May, and continues till the latter end of June; and if the natural fly be on the water during the night, the fiſh will not fail to bite at your artificial one.

JULY.

The following flies, which are uſed in May and June, are likewiſe proper for uſe this month; viz. The peacock-hackle, black-herl, pewet's topping, and

and red-herl. The whitteriſh and light-grey of laſt month may likewiſe be uſed; to which add

1. The BROWN, which is thus made: body, hair of a very light brown or reddiſh calf or ſpaniel, and light bear's hair mixed; warp with pale orange: wing, the feather of a land-rail.

2. RED SPINNER; begins with July, and ends about the middle of the month, and is uſeful only in the evenings of ſultry days. The body is made of gold-twiſt, with a red hackle over it: wing, of a grey drake's feather, lightly tinged with a yellow gloſs.

3. Large BLACK ANT-FLY. Body, of an oſtrich's black feather, and a black cock's hackle wrapped twice round under the wing. Wing, of the lighteſt ſky-coloured blue feather that can be procured, and of the greateſt gloſs: this fly is made in the ſame form as the following,

4. Large RED ANT-FLY. This, as well as the preceding, comes in about the middle of June, if the weather be hot, and both continue for a week or nine days. Take notice that theſe two ant-flies that come firſt, are the large horſe ants. The wings of this red-fly are made of a feather out of the wing of a ſtarling, of a duſky colour: the body of hog's down, dyed of an amber colour. It muſt be made very large at the tail, and ſmall towards the wing; with a red cock's hackle wrapped twice round under the butt-end of the wing.

5. BLUE GNAT; begins with July, and is a good killer when the water is low and fine. The wings to be made of a light blue cock's hackle; the body, the blue fur of a fox, mixed with ſome yellow.

6. WELSHMAN'S BUTTON, or Hazle-Fly. It takes its name from its ſhape, which is as round as a button. It comes in towards the end of the month, and has an outer huſky wing, and a ſmall blue one

under it. Theſe flies are found on hazle trees and fern buſhes, and drop as ſoon as the buſhes are touched. The body is made of the dark part of camel's hair, and the wing of the dark hackle feather of a pheaſant.

AUGUST.

The peacock hackle, black-herl, pewet's-topping, and red-herl, which are uſed in May, are likewiſe proper for this month; in which alſo are taken,

1. The BROWN ANT-FLY. Body, bright brown bear's hair, much weather-beaten, almoſt of an orange-colour towards the tail, and therefore a few hairs of a light-brown or flame-coloured calf, or ſpaniel's hair, to be added in the tail-part. Warp with orange-coloured ſilk: wing, the light feather of a fieldfare or ſtarling.

2. BLACK ANT-FLY. Body, darkeſt part of a hare's ſcut, and dark brown wool, or ſheep's ruſſet, equally mixed, and one ſingle ruddy herl of a peacock, all twiſted together; warp with copper-coloured ſilk: wing, a fieldfare's feather.

3. GREY-FLY. Body, light grey foal's hair, mixed with the dark part of a hare's ſcut; warp with grey ſilk: wing, of a hen-pheaſant's feather.

4. LITTLE RED and BLACK ANT-FLIES. Theſe come down the beginning of Auguſt, and are ſeen on the water from one to four in the afternoon. They are made of the ſame materials, and of the ſame ſhape as the large ones are; but are only about half the ſize.

5. LITTLE WHIRLING-BLUE. This comes down the beginning of the month, and continues about a fortnight. The wings are made of the blue feather of a ſea-gull; and the body of the red part of a ſquirrel's fur, ribbed with yellow, and a red hackle over

over it. This fly is to be uſed in the evenings of very warm days.

6. LITTLE PALE-BLUE. This comes down the beginning of Auguſt, and continues till the middle of September. It is greatly admired by the grayling, which is now in ſeaſon, and affords great diverſion to the angler. The wings of this fly are made of the lighteſt blue feather of a ſea-ſwallow: the body of the blueſt part of a fox's fur, with a very little yellow mohair mixed with it, ribbed with a ſtraw-coloured ſilk, and a fine pale-blue hackle over it. This fly continues till the willow-fly comes, and afterwards till the weather grows cold.

7. WILLOW-FLY. This comes about the middle of the month, and continues till the dun-blue comes again. It has four wings, which lie flat on the back; the belly is of a dirty yellow, and the back of a dark brown. The wings are made of a dun-cock's hackle a little freckled; the body of a ſquirrel's fur, ribbed with yellow ſilk, and covered lightly with the ſame coloured hackle as the wings. This fly is chiefly to be uſed in cold ſtormy days; but in warm gloomy weather you muſt fiſh with the pale-blue, and theſe two flies laſt till the ſeaſon for fly-fiſhing is at end.

MODERN CATALOGUE OF FLIES.

NUMBER III.

FEBRUARY.

1. PRIME-DUN. Wings, of the feather got from the quill of a ſtarling's wing; dubbing, of the down of a fox-cub, warped with aſh-coloured ſilk. This fly is made very ſmall; but there is another made of the ſame dubbing, conſiderably larger.

MARCH.

In this month the flies proper to February are likewiſe taken, as well as the following.

1. PALM-FLY. Dubbing, of the hair of a brown ſpaniel, from the outſide of the ear; and a little ſea-green wool mixed, warped with brown-coloured ſilk: wings, of the quill-feather of a ſtarling.

2. GREEN-TAIL. Dubbing, of the brown hair or a ſpaniel, got on the outſide of the ear, but a little in the end of the tail; muſt be all of ſea-green wool without mixture: wings, as the preceding fly.

3. MOORISH BROWN. Dubbing of the wool of a black ſheep; warped with red ſilk: wings, of the feather got from a partridge's wing.

APRIL.

1. BRIGHT-BEAR. Dubbing, of bright bear's hair; warped with ſad cloth-coloured ſilk: wings, of the quill-feather of a ſtarling. Some perſons dub the

the body with yellow ſilk, which is the preferable method.

2. YELLOW-DUN. Dubbing, of yellow wool, and aſh-coloured fox-cub down mixed together, dubbed with yellow ſilk: wings, of the feather of a ſtarling's quill. Others dub it with dun bear's hair, and the yellow fur got from a marten's ſkin, mixed together, and with yellow ſilk: wings, of a ſtarling's quill-feather.

You may likewiſe make two other flies, their bodies dubbed as the laſt; but in the one mingle ſanded hog's down; and in the other, black hog's down: wings, of a ſtarling's quill feather: and there is alſo taken an excellent fly, made of dun bear's hair, yellow marten's fur, ſanded hog's down, and black hog's down, all mixed in equal proportions; warped with yellow ſilk: wings, of the feather of a ſtarling's quill. The above-mentioned flies for April are very good, and will be taken all the ſpring and ſummer.

MAY.

1. FERN-BUD. This fly is found on fern; and the natural one is very good to dib with: it has a ſhort thick body, of a very dull greeniſh colour, and two pair of wings, of which the uppermoſt are hard, and ſometimes taken off; but the undermoſt diaphonous. It is dubbed with the herl of a peacock, and very ſad green ſilk: wings, of the feather of a fieldfare's quill, got out of the wing.

2. KNOP-FLY. Dubbing, of the down of an otter-cub, and the herl of a peacock; warped with black ſilk: wings, of the light grey feather of a mallard.

3. YELLOW MAY-FLY. Dubbing, of yellow wool, mixed with yellow fur of a marten; warped with yellow ſilk: wings, of the lighteſt-coloured feather of a throſtle.

4. LITTLE

4. LITTLE DUN. Dubbing, of an otter's fur; warped with aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, of the quill-feather of a ſtarling.

5. THORN-FLY. Dubbing, of black lamb's wool; warped with black ſilk: wings, of the light-grey feather of a mallard.

*** It is to be remarked, that wherever the feathers of mallards are directed to be uſed for wings, thoſe of the wild, and not of the tame mallard, are intended.

JUNE.

1. MACKERIL. Dubbing, of light brown camel's hair; warped with black ſilk: wings, of the feather of a red cock.

2. SAND-FLY. Dubbing, of the wool gotten off the flank of a black ſheep, warped with black ſilk: wings, of the ſad-coloured feather of a throſtle-quill. Some perſons make the body of the feather of a heron's neck.

3. PURPLE-FLY. Dubbing, of purple wool, and a little bear's hair mixed; ſometimes no bear's hair at all: wings, of the quill-feather of a ſtarling; warped with purple ſilk.

4. BLACK MIDGE, or Gnat. Dubbing, of the down of a mole; warped with black ſilk: wings, of a light-grey feather of a ſtarling.

5. GREY MIDGE, or Gnat. Dubbing, of the down of a ſad grey cat, or ſad grey camel's hair; warped with grey ſilk: wings, of the grey feather of a mallard.

JULY.

BLUE-DUN. Dubbing, of the down of a water-mouſe, and the bluiſh dun of an old fox mixed together; warped with ſad aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, of the quill-feather of a ſtarling.

AUGUST.

AUGUST.

1. The PISMIRE FLY. Dubbing, of bright brown bear's hair, warped with red ſilk: wings, of the ſaddeſt-coloured quill-feather of a ſtarling. This is deemed a good fly.

2. BUSS BROWN. Dubbing, of the light-brown hair of a cur; the head black: wings, of the feather of a red hen; warped with orange-coloured ſilk.

3. HEARTH-FLY. Dubbing, of the wool of an old black ſheep, with ſome grey hairs in it, for the body and head: wings, of a light ſtarling's quill-feather, warped on with black ſilk.

SEPTEMBER.

LITTLE BLUE-DUN. Dubbing of the down of a mouſe, for body and head; warped with ſad aſh-coloured ſilk: wings, of the quill feather of a ſad-coloured ſtarling.

End of the Directions for FLY-FISHING.

A

COMPENDIOUS ACCOUNT

OF THE PRINCIPAL

SEA-FISH,

Their NATURE, QUALITIES, and the METHOD of CATCHING THEM, &c.

Of the WHALE.

THIS enormous animal is the largeſt of all the aquatic tribe, and moſt of them are catched in the northern ſeas. Thoſe on the coaſt of Guienne, and in the Mediterranean, are the ſmalleſt; thoſe on the coaſt of America are from ninety to one hundred feet in length; while thoſe found near Spitzberg are two hundred feet long.

Of whales there are two kinds, one of which bears the name of Cachelot, and has ſmall flat teeth, which the genuine whale has not; but inſtead of teeth, has a ſort of whiſkers in the throat, which are a ſpan broad, and fifteen feet in length. They end in a kind of fringe, like the briſtles of a hog, are ſet in the palate, and ſerve inſtead of teeth in a great degree. Whalebone is made of theſe whiſkers, though it is generally thought that the fins of the fiſh ſupply this article. The above-mentioned whiſkers are about five hundred in number, between each of which there is a conſiderable ſpace.

The proper whale has no fins on the back, but two behind its eyes, covered with a thick black ſkin, variegated with ſtrokes of white. On cutting theſe fins

fins there appear under them bones like the hand of a man, and between them ſinews of remarkable ſtiffneſs. The whale ſteers himſelf with his fins.

The head of this fiſh is one third of its length: it has ſhort hairs on the fore part of the lips: on the upper lip are black ſtreaks mixed with brown; but the lips are otherwiſe ſmooth and black: they are of a ſerpentine form, and when ſhut, cloſe within each other. The tail of this fiſh lies horizontally, and is from ſix to eight yards in breadth.

The tongue lies among the whiſkers, and is large and white, except on the edges, which are ſpotted with black. The tongue is generally thrown away, as it is compoſed of ſoft ſpungy fat, that cannot eaſily be cut.

The hovel, or bump, is placed on the top of the head, before the eyes; and in this are two holes through which the whale blows the water with ſuch force, that it reſembles a hollow wind, which may be heard at three miles diſtance, when the fiſh is inviſible through foggy weather. When the whale is wounded, he ſpouts out this water ſo fiercely, that it reſembles the roaring of the ſea during a ſtorm.

The eyes of the whale are near the corner of his mouth, and are but little larger than thoſe of an ox. The eye-lids are furniſhed with hair, reſembling that of a man. The head is flat at the top, and ſlopes downwards to the under lip. The back and ſides are red: the bottom of the belly is black in ſome of the fiſh, but in common it is white.

Whales make a fine appearance when the ſun ſhines; for the waves riſing and daſhing againſt him, ſhine like ſilver. Some whales are marbled on the back and tail; and a white ſcar remains on whatever part they are wounded. Some whales are more black than others, being as deep as velvet; others of a coal-colour, and ſome not darker than a tench.

Though

Though the ſkin of this fiſh be remarkably ſlippery, yet a man may ſtand on him, as the fleſh readily yields to the weight. The outward ſkin is remarkably thin, and, while the fiſh is warm, may be taken off with the hand; but it is of little or no value.

The young whales are bred from coition. How long the female goes with young, is uncertain; but it is imagined that they never have more than two at a time, as no greater number has ever been found when they have been opened.

The tail of the whale is eatable, and not unwholeſome, as hath been experienced by thoſe who have frequently fed on it. Spermaceti is produced from the brain of the male whale, which being melted over a ſlow fire, is thrown into moulds like thoſe in which ſugar is refined. When cool, the oil is drained off, and being then melted again, becomes white, and being cut into flakes, is prepared for uſe.

Whales are principally caught on the coaſt of Spitzberg, from near 77 to 80 degrees of latitude. The following is an account of the DUTCH WHALE FISHERY, as extracted, with ſlight alterations, from a modern writer; the following regulations being univerſally agreed to:

"That in caſe a veſſel be ſhipwrecked, and the "crew ſaved, the next veſſel they meet ſhall take "them in, and the ſecond veſſel half of thoſe from the "firſt: but no ſhip is obliged to take in any of the "cargo of the ſhip-wrecked veſſel: but if any goods "taken out of ſuch a veſſel are abſolutely relinquiſh-"ed, and another ſhip finds them, and takes them "up, the Captain ſhall be accountable to the owners "of the ſhip-wrecked veſſel for one half, clear of "all expences. If the crew deſert a ſhip-wrecked "veſſel, they ſhall have no claim to any of the "effects ſaved, but the whole ſhall go to the pro-"prietor; but if they be preſent when effects are ſaved,

" ſaved, and aſſiſt therein, they ſhall have one fourth " thereof. That if a perſon kill a fiſh on the ice, it " ſhall be reputed his own ſo long as he leaves any " perſon with it; but the minute he leaves it, it be- " comes the due of the firſt Captain that comes that " way. But yet if the fiſh be faſtened to an anchor, " or a rope faſtened to the ſhore, it ſhall remain to " its firſt proprietor, though he leave it alone. " That if any perſons be wounded or maimed in the " ſervice, the Commiſſioners of the fiſhery are to " procure him a reaſonable ſatisfaction, to which " the whole fleet ſhall contribute.

" They likewiſe agree to attend prayers morning " and evening, on pain of a forfeit at the diſcretion " of the Captain; nor to get drunk, or draw their " knives, on forfeiture of half their wages; nor " fight, on forfeiture of the whole. They are not " to lay wagers on the good or ill ſucceſs of the fiſh- " ing; nor buy nor ſell with the condition of taking " one or more fiſh, on the penalty of twenty-five " florins. They are likewiſe to reſt ſatisfied with " the proviſions allowed them; and they are never " to light candle, fire, or match, without the Cap- " tain's leave, on the penalty above-mentioned."

" Theſe regulations being read, the crew are " called over, receive the uſual gratuity in advance, " and are promiſed a farther at their return, in pro- " portion to the ſucceſs of the voyage. The Captain " on this occaſion receives from 100 to 160 florins: " the Pilot from 40 to 60: each Harpineer from 40 " to 60; the other Officers from 26 to 36 florins: " the old ſailors 20, and the young ones 12."

" The fleet, which conſiſts of veſſels from two to " three hundred tons, and from thirty-five men to " forty-one, uſually ſets ſail about the beginning of " April, and takes its courſe by the iſlands of Iceland, " from 60 to 61 degrees of latitude; after which,

"leaving them to the weſt, it ſteers northward "through 73, 74, and 75 degrees of latitude, "where they begin to find the ice.

"It is through theſe prodigious heaps of ice, "which abound in thoſe parts, that they firſt begin "to ſpy the whales; and there moſt of the veſſels "make a ſtop in order for fiſhing. But as the fiſh "are larger and fatter the farther they go north, for "that reaſon ſome veſſels will venture as far as 80, "or 82 degrees.

"Each veſſel of 300 tons has ſix ſhaloops, each "ſhaloop is allowed a harpineer, and five ſailors to "row it: in each ſhaloop there are ſeven lines, of three "inches circumference, five of them in the fore part "of the veſſel, and two behind. The five lines toge- "ther make ſix hundred fathom, and with the addi- "tion of the other two, the whole amounts to eight "hundred and fifty fathom. If the whale dives "deeper, or runs further under the ice, the line "muſt be cut, to prevent the loſs of the boat.

"The inſtrument with which the execution is "done, is a harping-iron, or javelin, five or ſix feet "long, pointed with ſteel in a triangular ſhape, "like the barb of an arrow.

"The harpineer, ſtanding at one end of the ſloop, "as ſoon as he is at a proper diſtance from the "whale, flings the harping-iron, with all the force "he is maſter of, againſt the whale's back, and if "he is ſo lucky as to penetrate through the ſkin and "fat into the fleſh, he lets go a ſtring faſtened to "the harping-iron, at the end whereof is a dry "gourd, which ſwimming on the water, diſcovers "whereabout the whale is, who, as ſoon as he is "ſtruck, plunges to the bottom. The gourd is "made uſe of when they have not line enough to "purſue the whale in its career. However, great "care is taken that they may have line enough, and

"if

" if the cargo of one ſhaloop is not ſufficient, they " throw the end of the cord to another, and from " thence to another, if there ſhould be occaſion. " The cord, in running out ſo ſwiftly, would often " take fire, if it was not kept wetting with a mop, " or a ſwab.

" As ſoon as the whale riſes again for breath, the " harpineer gives him a freſh wound with a lance, " and ſo do the reſt of the crew, as they have an op- " portunity; for when he begins to faint with loſs " of blood, they can approach near him, and then " they plunge their lances into various parts of his " body, which ſoon diſpatch him. When the car- " caſe begins to float, they cut off the fins and tail, " and tow him to the ſhip, where they faſten ropes " to keep him from ſinking; and when it is cold, " they begin to cut it up.

" In order to this, three or four men go down " upon the whale, with irons upon their boots to " keep them from ſlipping. They begin to open " him on the ſide, and proceed downwards towards " the belly, cutting off all the fat into pieces of three " feet broad, and eight long: beſides the fat on the " ſides, they frequently cut off that on the throat " and the under lip, leaving the lean behind. They " next proceed to the whalebone, which they cut " off, with a hatchet made for that purpoſe, from " the upper jaw of the fiſh. The fat and bone thus " procured, they leave the carcaſe for the bears, " who are very fond of it. As faſt as the large " pieces of fat are cut off, the reſt of the crew are " employed in ſlicing them ſmaller, and picking out " the lean. When this is prepared, they ſtow it " under deck till the fat of all the whale is on " board; then cutting it ſtill ſmaller, they put it " in tubs in the hold, or bottom of the veſſel, cram-

" ming them very full and close. This done, they " sail for home, where the fat is to be boiled, and " melted down into train oil."

Of the COD.

THIS fish is likewise called the Keeling, and the small of the kind are denominated Codlings. The head is large, the belly prominent, and the whole fish thick and roundish. Its back is brown, the belly white, and it is covered with yellow spots. Its small scales adhere to the skin. It has large eyes, and a barb of an inch in length descends from the lower jaw. Its tongue is soft and round, and it has teeth in the palate and throat, as well as several rows of them in the jaws. It has a large stomach, in which herrings and other small fish are frequently found.

This fish is in great estimation, and is eaten salt as well as fresh: the head of a cod is deemed delicate eating. Cod are caught all round the coast of Great-Britain; and in different places almost all through the year.

The Banks of Newfoundland are the best places for cod-fishing. The principal bank is 100 miles broad, and 450 long. The fattest and largest fish are taken on the south side of the bank. The principal time for fishing is from the beginning of February to the end of April. Sometimes this fishery will end in six weeks, and sometimes last six months.

Some fishermen, on the approach of Lent, will sail with half a cargo, because then the markets are good; and return and get another lading before the season

ſeaſon is over. Good fiſhermen will catch between three and four hundred in a day, though they take but one at a time, with a hook baited with the entrails of other cod. The weather being ſevere in that quarter, this fiſhing is very laborious. The captain and ſailors are allowed a third of the cod they bring home ſound, as their wages.

The following is the method of ſalting cod on board the ſhips: "They cut off the head, open the "belly, and take out the guts: then the ſalter "ranges them ſide by ſide at the bottom of the veſſel, "and head to tail, a fathom or two ſquare. When "one layer is compleat, he covers it with ſalt, and "then lays on another, which he covers as before; "and thus he diſpoſes of all the fiſh caught in the "ſame day, for care is taken not to mix thoſe of "different days together. After the cod has lain "thus three or four days, they are removed into "another part of the veſſel, and ſalted afreſh; and "then it is ſometimes ſuffered to lie till the veſſel "has its burden. Sometimes they are put into "barrels, for the conveniency of carriage."

The ſmaller ſort of cod are generally choſen for ſalting, becauſe the ſalt penetrates them moſt effectually. There are many proper ports for drying the cod, within the limits of the fiſhery. When the ſhips arrive, all the veſſels are unrigged, and a tent is provided on ſhore, covered with branches of fir, on which the ſails are thrown, and furniſhed with a ſcaffold 20 feet broad, and 50 or 60 in length. The crew begin immediately to fiſh, and ſalt what they firſt catch on moveable benches; but it is on the ſcaffold that the chief ſalting is performed. The fiſh once ſalted, are laid in heaps to drain, on the galleries of the ſcaffold; and afterwards laid ſingly on hurdles, with the inſide downwards, and are turned four times in a day and a night.

As they dry, they are laid in heaps of ten or a dozen, and the heaps daily encreaſed till of twice their original ſize. After this, two heaps are put together, and the fiſh turned daily; and when they are perfectly dry, they are laid together in immenſe heaps. The tripes, tongues, and rows of the fiſh are likewiſe ſalted and barrelled. Theſe laſt are uſed to throw into the ſea, to attract pilchards and other fiſh. Leather is dreſſed with the oil of the cod, which is alſo uſed for other purpoſes.

Of the TURBOT.

IN the north of England this fiſh is called a *Bret*. It is ſeldom more than three feet long, and thirty inches broad. Its fleſh is generally eſteemed the moſt delicate of all ſalt-water fiſh, and it bears a high price in the markets of London; though it is often ſold very cheap at Graveſend, when it cannot be brought freſh to London. It is diſgraceful to this country that the London markets are ſupplied by Dutchmen, who catch them on our own coaſts, and are computed to take above 30,000l. a year in this article. The turbot ſeaſon commences with May, and ends at the beginning of Auguſt, during which period they are taken on the Dogger-Bank: but they are found on the coaſts of Devonſhire and Cornwall, from January to March.

Of the SOAL.

THIS fiſh is ſaid to be named from the ſoal of a ſhoe, which it reſembles in ſhape. The upper part

part of it is aſh-colour, and the lower white, and it is from the length of nine to fourteen inches. Its fleſh is remarkably firm and ſolid, of a moſt agreeable taſte, and deemed highly nutritive. Theſe fiſh are principally catched on the coaſts of Devonſhire and Cornwall, and thence brought by land to London.

Of the PLAICE.

THIS is a flat fiſh, often near a foot long, and ſeven inches in breadth. On the lower part he is whitiſh, but on the upper of a dirty olive-colour, having round ſpots of a vermillion caſt. The fleſh is ſoft, ſweet, and wholeſome; and many perſons think it is as good as a ſoal. He is to be found on all our coaſts, and is ſold in the ſtreets of London great part of the year.

Of the DAB.

IT is about the ſize of a plaice, but ſomewhat thicker. Its ſcales are large, conſidering the ſmallneſs of the fiſh, and it feels rough if the fingers are drawn from the tail upwards. Its upper part is of a darkiſh olive, with a reddiſh caſt; and it has ſpots of a duſky yellow. They are found in great abundance on our ſea-coaſts, but are not ſo generally eſteemed as the plaice, though uſually ſold at about the ſame price.

Of

Of the TURTLE.

PERHAPS the more proper name of this fiſh is the TORTOISE, but it is generally known in England by that of Turtle. It is an amphibious animal, covered with a large oval ſhell, variegated with many colours. In America theſe fiſh are found of five feet in length, and four in breadth.

Of turtle there are four ſorts; the *Trunk*, the *Loggerhead*, the *Hawk's-Bill*, and the *Green*; of which the laſt is abundantly the fineſt food. The fat is of a yellowiſh green, otherwiſe the fleſh bears a great reſemblance to beef. This animal is remarkably ſtupid, yet its ſight is very quick. Its common food conſiſts of moſs, graſs, and ſea-weed.

Theſe fiſh are taken chiefly at the time of engendering, which is from March to May. They are then ſeen, the male on the back of the female, when two or three men approaching in a canoe, ſlip a nooſe round their necks, or one of the feet; and ſometimes they ſeize them by the neck with their hands only; but the female frequently eſcapes. They are ſometimes catched by throwing a ſpear which ſticks in the ſhell of the turtle, which is drawn out by a rope faſtened to the ſpear. The turtle take the land from the firſt moon in April, to that in Auguſt, during which period they lay their eggs, and in one ſeaſon will lay ſeveral hundreds. The ſhe turtle, on the night preceding her laying, views the place, goes once round it, and returns to the ſea. On the following evening, towards ſun-ſet, ſhe approaches the land, and looks round her, and if ſhe ſees any perſon, ſeeks another place: if not, ſhe comes on ſhore, digs a hole in the ſand with her fore feet, about a foot broad, and eighteen inches deep, ſomewhat above the flowing of the tide. She then

then lays 80 or 90 round eggs, of the ſize of a hen's egg, covered with a tough ſkin. Theſe ſhe carefully covers up; lays again at the end of fifteen days, and for the laſt time at the end of another fifteen.

The heat of the ſand hatches the eggs in about twenty-five days, when the young turtles run immediately to the ſea. Thoſe which happen to be catched, are fried whole, and are ſaid to be exquiſite food. The grown turtle are taken in the evening by being thrown on their backs, and drawn above high-water mark, where they are left till the following day.

Near ſome of the American Iſlands there are green plots at the bottom of the ſhallow ſea, and on theſe, in fine weather, and ſmooth water, the turtle may be ſeen creeping. After having fed plentifully, they proceed to the mouths of rivers, where they enjoy freſh water and air, and then return to their former ſituation. A common ſized turtle is about 200 pounds weight, and its eggs near 300. The latter will keep a conſiderable time; and the ſeamen generally ſalt the fleſh. The ſhell of the turtle is moulded into different forms, according to the pleaſure of the artiſt.

Of the HERRING.

THIS fiſh is generally from nine to twelve inches long. They reſide chiefly in the northern ſeas, between the north of Scotland, Denmark, and Norway, from whence they come in ſhoals to the Britiſh channel. The Dutch employ annually a hundred veſſels, called buſſes, in the herring-fiſhery, which commences about the middle of June. An idea is formed

formed where the herrings lie, by the hovering of the ſea-birds, who conſtantly purſue them in hope of prey.

Of herrings there are ſix ſorts: 1. The *fat-herring*; which is larger and thicker than all the reſt. 2. The *meat-herring*; which is large, but not ſo fat as the other. 3. The *night-herring*, which is of a middle ſize. 4. The *pluck*, which is one that has been damaged by the nets. 5. The *ſhotten*, which is one that has loſt its milt or ſpawn; and 6. The *topſhen*, which has loſt its head by accident.

Herrings are cured in the following manner: "Being put into a tub with brine or ſalt, they lay "24 hours; they are then put into wicker baſ- "kets and waſhed; then ſpitted on ſmall wooden "ſpits, and hung up in a chimney built for that "purpoſe, at ſuch diſtances that the ſmoke may "have free acceſs to them all. When they have "filled theſe places, which will hold ten or twelve "thouſand, they kindle the billets which are laid on "the floor, in order to dry them: this done, they "ſhut the doors, all other air-holes being ſtopt be- "fore, and immediately the place is filled with "ſmoke. This is repeated every quarter of an hour, "inſomuch that a ſingle laſt of herrings requires "500 billets to dry them. A laſt is ten barrels, "each barrel containing near a thouſand herrings. "Theſe, thus prepared and dried, are called red- "herrings."

Pickled herrings are prepared by the Dutch, who gut and waſh them as ſoon as catched; then put them for 15 hours into ſtrong brine, made of water and ſea ſalt. They then drain them, and place them in barrels, with a layer of ſalt at the top, and one at the bottom. This being done, the barrel is carefully ſtopped.

Of

Of the PILCHARD.

THIS fiſh, which is thicker than a herring, ſeldom exceeds the length of nine inches. Its belly and ſides are of a ſilver colour, and the back a green, approaching to blue. Its mouth is wide, and without teeth. Its eyes are of a ſilver-colour, with a caſt of red. It has black ſpots near the upper corner of the gills; and ſome of them have like ſpots from thence towards the tail. In other reſpects it is much like a herring. It is very healthy food, of good taſte, and more firm and palatable than a herring.

Theſe fiſh are caught on the coaſts of Cornwall and Devonſhire, from June to September, and ſometimes even at Chriſtmas on the Corniſh coaſt. They are a fiſh of paſſage, and ſwim in ſhoals like herrings and anchovies. They croud about a boat that carries a light in the night, by which they are eaſily taken.

Men ſit watching on the tops of mountains in Cornwall and Devonſhire, for the coming of ſhoals of pilchards, which is known in the night by the ſhining of the water, and in the day by its appearing dark. Signals are given by theſe men, how to manage the nets, by which above 100,000 pilchards are ſometimes taken at a draught.

Pilchards are placed in layers, in warehouſes, to the height of near ſix feet, ſalt being ſtrewed between each layer. Having remained about eighteen days in this manner, wooden ſpits are thruſt through their gills, and being twice waſhed, they are put into barrels, and preſſed down with heavy weights, by which great quantities of oil are obtained. The fiſh are then barrelled up, and ſold to the merchants.

Of

Of the SHARK.

THIS is a moſt devouring animal, and frequently bites off the limbs of perſons who by accident fall into the ſea. The mouth of this fiſh, which is enormouſly large, is placed under the eyes, ſo that he turns on his back to ſeize his prey. His teeth, which are very ſharp, are 144 in number, placed triangularly in ſix rows, three in the upper, and three in the under jaw. The throat of this fiſh is wide, and its ſtomach very capacious. They are exceeding fond of human fleſh, and three or four of them will join to tear in pieces the dead body of a Guinea ſlave which is thrown over-board. They are taken with a piece of ſalt-beef put on an iron-hook, and drawn on board by a rope faſtened to the hook. Phyſicians ſay the fleſh, which is white, is not fit to eat; but Engliſh ſailors have eaten of it without being hurt by it. Theſe fiſh are to be found in all parts of the ſea. Some authors report that ſharks have been ſeen of 4000 pounds weight, and that men have been found whole in their bodies.

Of the PILOT-FISH.

THIS fiſh is ſo called from his attending on the ſhark, and never being ſeen out of his company. He commonly ſwims before him, but will play about the ſhark, which has never been known to hurt him. The pilot-fiſh is about the ſize of a whiting, he is deemed exquiſite fine food, and the common method of taking him is by ſtriking him with a fizgig.

Of

Of the DOREE.

THE head and eyes of this fiſh are large, and the mouth uncommonly wide. He is broad and flat, and of almoſt equal thickneſs in all parts. His ſhape reſembles that of a plaice, but he ſhould not be claſſed among the flat-fiſh, becauſe he ſwims in an erect poſition. His breadth is from ſeven to eight inches, and his length about eighteen. He is taken on the coaſts of Cornwall, and ſometimes, though ſeldom, brought to London, where he ſells at an enormous price. The connoiſſeurs in fiſh prefer the taſte of the doree even to that of the turbot.

Of the HADDOCK.

THIS fiſh is covered with ſmall ſcales; its back is blackiſh, and on its middle, on each ſide, is a large black ſpot. It has a barb on the lower jaw, its tail is forked, and it bears a conſiderable reſemblance to a cod. It is of the middle ſize between the cod and the whiting. It is ſold in common in the markets and ſtreets of London; is rather a coarſe fiſh, and is principally purchaſed by the poorer people.

Of the MACKEREL.

THESE fiſh are found in immenſe ſhoals on our coaſts. In April they enter the Engliſh chan-

nel, and proceeding through the ſtraits of Dover, are found, in the month of June, on the coaſts of Suſſex and Cornwall. This fiſh is often angled for from a veſſel lying at anchor. The bait is a piece of herring on a ſtrong hook: but a piece of other fiſh, or even a bait of ſcarlet cloth will anſwer the end; for they bite with the utmoſt eagerneſs; and ſeveral hooks are frequently uſed at once.

They are thus fiſhed for with nets on the coaſt of the Weſt of England. "One man fixes a pole in-"to the ſand near the ſea, to which he makes faſt "one end of a long net. Another takes the other "end of the net in his boat, and rows round as far "as the length of the net will permit, and then back "towards the ſhore: when his boat turns round, he "ſteps into the water, and taking the cord of the "net with him, drags the net towards the ſhore: "then, upon a ſignal given, both the men draw the "net out of the ſea, and by this method often catch "three or four hundred fiſh, which are immediately "carried away by horſes."

A mackerel cannot be eaten too ſoon after it is taken out of the water; yet they are often exceeding good after bringing to London, where they are eaten in amazing numbers. This fiſh is from twelve to eighteen inches in length, and is remarkable for its beauty; but is ſo generally known as not to need a deſcription. They are of a voracious nature, and ſmall fiſh are frequently found in their bellies.

Mackerel are pickled either by opening them, and cramming their bellies with ſalt; or by putting them into tubs of brine made of freſh water and ſalt. They are deemed a good reliſh when cold, after being ſtewed in vinegar.

Of the HALYBUT.

THIS fiſh, which is deemed nearly equal to the turbot in flavour, is conſiderably larger than any other flat-fiſh. They are about half as long as their breadth; and grow to the weight of an hundred pounds; but thoſe of the beſt flavour are between ten and forty pounds. They are taken in the Iriſh ſea, and in the Britiſh and German ocean.

Of the SKATE.

THIS fiſh is found in abundance round the coaſt of Great Britain, and is chiefly in ſeaſon during the winter. It is flat, ſmooth, broad, and griſtly, and will grow to above an hundred pounds weight; but thoſe from twenty to forty pounds are the fineſt fiſh. Its taſte is more agreeable after it has been kept ſome time out of the water. The under part of it is white, and the upper a pale aſh-colour, ſpotted with black.

Of the THORNBACK.

THE thornback is found in the ſame places as the ſkate; but is not ſo eaſy of digeſtion, though almoſt of a ſimilar taſte. Its ſhape is almoſt ſquare; but it does not meaſure quite as much from the head

to the root of the tail, as from one ſide to the other; ſo that it may be deemed broader than it is long, if there were not an impropriety in ſuch a deſcription.

Of the WHITING.

THIS fiſh ſeldom exceeds twelve inches in length; but is generally eſteemed for the tenderneſs and delicacy of its taſte. It is ſometimes dried, after the guts are taken out, and, in this ſtate, is not deemed bad food.

Whitings are frequently fiſhed for from a boat or ſmack, and as they bite freely, it is eaſy to catch them. The ſea-gulls hovering over the place where the whitings lie, and often dipping in the water, afford a proper direction where to fiſh for them. Off Portſmouth they are frequently catched by uſing ſmelts as baits, or bits of herring, a muſcle, a lob-worm, or a marſh-worm. The line is faſtened to the inſide of the boat, and fiſh drawn up almoſt at pleaſure.

Of the MAID.

THIS fiſh is not deemed ſo good eating as the ſkate, to which it bears ſome reſemblance, though it differs from it in its abounding with prickles, which have their root in round hard ſubſtances, which lie hid within the fleſh; whereas there are no prickles on the ſkate. Writers affirm that the maid is a young thornback.

Of

Of the LOBSTER.

THIS fiſh is ſo well known, that a particular deſcription of it would be ſuperfluous. It always feeds at the bottom of the water; and the ſtrong claws with which it is provided, ſerve it to ſeize ſuch of the larger prey as come within its reach: but when ſuch prey is not to be found, it feeds on worms that are found among the mud and gravel.

Of the CRAB.

THIS fiſh partakes much of the nature of the lobſter. They are commonly found in the mouths of rivers, creeks, and ponds made with ſalt-water, and are catched with the garbage of a fowl, or a bit of liver. Little ſkill is required in angling for them. The bait being tied to a ſtring, they will inſtantly ſeize on it, and keep their hold till they are drawn near the top of the water, when they are brought on ſhore by means of a landing-net.

Of the WEEVER.

THE body of this fiſh is long, and its back ſtrait. On its ſides are a number of brown and yellow lines, running from the back towards the belly in an oblique form. It has one fin on the back near the

head, which is deemed of a poiſonous nature; and when a fiſherman is wounded with it, a ſwelling and intenſe pain enſue, which ſubſide at the end of four or five hours. The fleſh of this fiſh is firm, and of a pleaſant taſte; and they are ſometimes found eighteen inches in length.

Of the SURMULLET.

THIS fiſh was formerly ſo ſcarce as to ſell for its weight. It is now brought to London by land carriage from Suſſex, Cornwall, and Devonſhire; but it is ſtill deemed a great rarity. Its colour is a duſky yellow; its length from ſix to nine inches: its body thick; but gradually decreaſing to the tail. It has large ſcales, which are eaſily taken off. In the Mediterranean ſea they are found in great abundance.

Of the LUMP.

IT likewiſe bears the name of the Sea-owl. It is thick and ugly, and from twelve to eighteen inches in length. It has no ſcales, but there are black ſharp tubercles on all parts of its ſkin. Its back is narrow, and its belly broad and red. Its fleſh is not much admired, though it is often ſold in our markets.

Of

Of the LING.

ON its being firſt catched, this fiſh is deemed a moſt exquiſite diſh; and when ſalted, is in higher eſtimation than any other ſalt-fiſh. It is catched from Eaſter to Midſummer on the north-eaſt coaſt of England; and from Chriſtmas till Michaelmas on the north-eaſt of Ireland. Its body is long and round, and covered with ſmall ſcales, which adhere to it very cloſely. Some of them are of a grey or aſh-colour on the back and ſides, and others of an olive-colour.

Of the TUNNY-FISH.

IT is thick, long and round; but remarkably ſmall towards the tail. The back is of a dark colour, and they have been catched of above the weight of a hundred pounds. Theſe fiſh ſwim in ſhoals, and range to very diſtant parts of the ſea; for they are taken on the coaſt of Cornwall, with their ſtomachs filled with pilchards, and are alſo found in the Mediterranean. It is generally thought that they leave their ſpawn in the Euxine ſea.

The following is a deſcription which a modern writer has given of the method of catching them. "The time of fiſhing begins in September. They "are caught by a contrivance made of ſmall cane, "which the French call madrague: ſome of theſe "are ſaid to be a mile in compaſs. They are divided "into ſeveral partitions, and the fiſh having entered "the large ones, are driven from thence into the "ſmaller; for they are like ſheep, if one leads the "way, all the reſt will follow. The inmoſt parti-

"tion

"tion of all is of a closer contexture than the rest,
"and it is floored as it were with a net. When
"they take out the fish, they draw it so near the
"shore, that the bottom may be within five feet of
"the surface of the water, and then the fishermen
"leap into it as into a fish-pond: they lay hold of
"the fish by the smaller part of their tails, and
"throw them into the boats, where they immedi-
"ately die."

The fish are then hung up in the air, their heads cut off, their bodies cut in slices, broiled on grid-irons, and fried with oil-olive. This being done, they are seasoned with pepper, salt, cloves, and bay-leaves; then barrelled with fresh oil-olive and vinegar, and sent to all parts of Europe. The taste of this fish resembles that of veal, its flesh is firm, and its colour white.

Of the SPRAT.

THE resemblance between this fish and the herring is so great, that it has been concluded that there is no other difference between them than what arises from their age. They are taken in amazing abundance, sold at low rates, and are so common as not to need a particular description.

THE END.